Race Riot . . .

WHITE BOY STABBED—Rolland Erbard, 20, stabbed in a riot at a St. Louis park where white and Negro boys went swimming together, gets first aid. The youth's condition was called serious

Associated Press WIREPHOTO

NEGRO ATTACKED—An unidentified Negro grimaces as a policeman (left) tries to halt an attack on him during the fight over rights in a city-owned swimming pool in St. Louis. Note the extended leg of a person kicking at the Negro.

Mob Burns Homes; Guards Stand By

The Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Wed. 7-20-49

GROVELAND, Fla.—(INS)— Florida Adjutant General Mark Lance notified Gov. Fuller Warren at Tallahassee by telephone late this afternoon that the situation in the Groveland-Tavares area is "in good hands."

The National Guard was called out again early Tuesday after mobs of white men, angered by an admitted attack on a young white woman by four Negroes, burned at least three Negro houses near Bay Lake.

A National Guard unit from Eustis, Florida, consisting of 42 men has been on the scene since noon Tuesday.

Lance said the 116th Field Artillery, 220-men strong, left Tampa Tuesday afternoon for Groveland. The 116th will relieve the Eustis outfit.

Lance added that all troops are completely equipped and armed ready for any emergency. He said National Guard troops will stay on the scene until Sheriff Willis McCall certified that they are no longer needed.

One Guard Aircraft is also in the area for daylight liaison.

Mobs of white men angered by an attack on a white woman by four Negroes were reported to have burned at least three Negro houses near Bay Lake.

Wed. 7-20-49

Earlier, Lake County Sheriff Willis V. McCall said he had called out the National Guard again after mobs started to congregate around Mascotte, a small community three miles west of Groveland.

McCall said he was unable to reason with the men, as he was on Saturday night when he talked a mob out of lynching two of the Negroes who have admitted the attack.

A third prisoner was seized Sunday and the fourth is still at large but Sheriff McCall said he expected to arrest him shortly.

Miner Beaten; 11 Are Charged

Atlanta, Ga.

3-Day Work Week Brings Violence In Jefferson

Montgomery, Ala.

BESSEMER, Ala., July 12—(AP)— Eleven men today were charged with assault with intent to murder following a complaint by a 30-year-old mine employe that he was kicked and beaten.

Thomas A. Warnell told sheriff's deputies he was attacked by a mob of about 50 men last Friday night while on his way to work at the Tennessee Coal & Iron Company's Short Creek coal mine.

Wed. 7-13-49

Warnell, a veteran and father of two children, told deputies he was dragged from a bus, kicked and beaten about the head and body. He said he had received treatment from a physician for bruises and lacerations.

Not Affected

Warnell is employed at the mine as an electrician-motor inspector, a maintenance position. He said he did not feel that he was affected by a recent union order (United Mine Workers) to work only three days.

He declared he is a member of the UMW.

Warnell said he had been warned by another union employe to "not work more than three days." He added he was told he "would not live to testify" if he took any legal action against his attackers.

Alabama's Mob Outbreak

The sudden eruption of mobbism in Alabama saddens and disgusts law-abiding folk throughout the South. Alabama's Senate promptly passed an "anti-masking" bill. Gov. Folsom alerted the state law-enforcement officers and ordered an investigation. The head of the Alabama Klan organization denied that its members had anything to do with the "acts of hoodlumism." State investigators reported however that a "special deputy sheriff," serving as sentry for a Klan meeting Friday night, tried to prevent them from removing covers from the license plates of cars parked in the vicinity, though concealment of such plates is forbidden by law.

The hooded mob activities have been centered thus far in the Birmingham area. If the infection of mob lawlessness is confined to a single city or county, it should be quarantined and stamped out with comparative ease and speed. The victims of the recent series of outrages have been white people. Whether the instigators sought deliberately to avoid racial complications can only be conjectured, but their sadistic performances in any case blotch the reputation of their state and of their own communities.

It is hoped that this outbreak will be ended as quickly as it started. That can be done if Alabama's people resolve that it must be done and translate that resolution into action. There is no excuse for these barbaric relapses. Community tolerance and indifference can encourage and breed more and worse lawlessness. The Birmingham News prescribed the remedy in a single sentence: "The men sworn to uphold the law, backed by the united and indignant opinion of the public, must stop these outrages—and promptly."

The entire South—and indeed the whole country, awaits the performance of that duty by Alabama's law enforcement officers with the active and courageous backing of Alabama's law-loving people.

Grand Jury To Reconvene: Action On Mob Terror Seen

The Summer Grand Jury—in recess exactly a week—will begin hearing testimony at 9 a.m. tomorrow in what is expected to be an important phase of the investigation into mob terror in the county.

The Grand Jury call was given at noon yesterday by Judge Alta L. King, in the absence of Judge George Lewis Bailes, who empanelled the body.

* * *

WHEN JUDGE BAILES dismissed the Grand Jury last Friday the foreman read a written statement in which he asked the court to call the Grand Jury back into session if evidence was obtained in the mob floggings.

If no such evidence was obtained to warrant the body being called back into session the foreman asked that the Grand Jury be recessed until Aug. 29.

Solcitor Emmett Perry emphasized that the special session is for the purpose of "considering all evidence having to do with law violations."

Perry said the sheriff's office and state investigators assigned to the flogging probe will be called before the Grand Jury to "present any evidence they may have."

In addition, he said, he is extending an open invitation for any citizen to come before the Grand Jury without a subpoena to give evidence directly to the investigative body.

THE GRAND JURY CALL came less than 24 hours after a man who represents himself as a Holiness preacher was placed in jail after being identified by a flogging victim.

R. C. Lyons, coal miner and part-time preacher of Graysville, is charged with burglary of an inhabited dwelling in the night time with intent to commit a felony.

The offense is a capital one for which a conviction may carry the death penalty. He is being held without bond.

Lyons was identified by Jack Alexander, who said he was taken from his home by a masked mob and flogged on May 20.

Alexander said he identified Lyons as a man who knelt unmasked at his head and prayed for Alexander shortly before the lash fell.

The victim said he "couldn't be mistaken." He said he saw Lyons' face clearly.

Lyons denied to newsmen that he was with the mob or knew anything about the Ku Klux Klan other than what he had "read in the newspapers."

STATE INVESTIGATORS assigned to investigate mob violence in Jefferson County have worked tirelessly since the Summer Grand Jury was recessed last week. They arrested Lyons Tuesday afternoon after Alexander had identified him on the streets of Graysville Sunday.

Meanwhile, Judge Bailes dismissed a petition seeking to have Klan Leader William Hugh Morris cited for contempt a second time. Judge Bailes said in effect that such a citation could have no effect since Morris is already in jail on a similar charge.

Morris has been in jail now exactly two weeks since he refused to furnish Klan records to the Spring Grand Jury. He has also refused a demand from the present Grand Jury to produce the records.

Morris' attorney, Hugh Locke, is expected to file a habeas corpus petition this week to attempt to obtain bond for his client.

U. S. And City Fuss Over Policy After Washington Swim Pool Riot

The Defender Chicago Ill. Sat. 7-9-49

WASHINGTON—The law-blinded race prejudice which led to juvenile rioting over swimming facilities in St. Louis and Youngstown spread to the Nation's capital where Interior Department officials have been forced to close the Anacostia swimming pool after five persons-three white and two Negroes—were arrested and at least four others injured in a free-for-all which broke out over the non-segregated use of the Government-controlled facility.

Interior Department Secretary Julius A. Krug, ordered the pool closed "until further notice" after racial disturbances broke out on two successive days when Negro youth insisted upon using the pool along with whites in line with an Interior Department order.

Anacostia is one of six pools which are operated by Government Services Inc., under a contract arrangement wth the Interior Department which provides anyone can swim in any pool regardless of race. All six pools have been operated in the morning hours by the District Recreation Department which maintains a policy of strict race segregation in all of its activities. During the afternoons, in six pools, GSI has been operating the facilities for a fee on a theoretically non-segregated basis, although segregation had been maintained by custom until Negro youths last week decided to enjoy the right which the Interior Dept. odrer entitled them.

When a group of Negroes showed up in the morning hours, the Recreation Department withdrew its staff, and the Board later voted to withdraw fror the morning swimming program unless segregation is maintained. 7-9-49

Interior Department officials refused to bow to the Recreation Department's ultimatum, and entered into an agreement with GSI to operate the pools during both morning and afternoon hours, maintaining a non-segregated policy.

Capt. Mark H. Raspberry, head of the Park Police, said the flare-up which led to the closing of the Anacostia pool, occured when a group of 70 Negro youth entered the enclosing swimming area to use the pool along with some 100 white youth who already were there at the time. A Negro boy Charles Watson, was cornered by a group of whites and when he attempted to get away, cut himself scaling a barbed-wire-topped fence surrounding the swimming area.

The incident gave rise to a free-for-all on the outside of the inclosure which was not quelled until 50 police arrived to reinforce the 8 officers assigned to the area who had been unable to establish peace. Capt. Raspberry said, altogether some 450 persons were involved in the affair.

John H. Connaughton, president of the hide-bound Washington Federation of Citizens Associations, in a letter to Secretary Krug, demanded the immediate rescinding of the Interior Department non-segregation order. He warned Mr. Krug, that the situation approaches that which created the recent racial explosions in St. Louis and Youngston," and stated, "in your hands lies the power to prevent a similar explosion that can only reflect discredit upon you, your department, and upon the federal government."

ing out handbills and pamphlets without a permit. Police said they were handing out the papers in the name of the "Young Progressive Party."

Officials attributed the clash to the removal of segregation rules by the Interior Department which maintains the District's park system. The District of Columbia Recreation Board, which operates the pool, said Monday it will remove its employees from the area unless segregation is restored.

Clark Foreman, chairman of the local Progressive Party, issued a statement praising Secretary of Interior Krug for his "forthright stand" in putting the Capital's pools on a "non-segregaated basis." At the same time the Progressive Party "condemned" the position taken by the D. C. Recreation Board. It said the "outbreaks in local pools have been made possible because of the board's indifference to Jim Crow and inability to discipline its own guards."

The park police, assisted by district forces who were called out Tuesday maintained a cordon around the Anacostia pool for hours after the fighting had been halted. Two persons were injured in Tuesday's clashes.

In addition to the Sexton girl thee others were reported injured in yesterday's disorders: A Negro youth hurt while fleeing over a fence, a white youth reported bitten under the left eye, and a Negro park policeman hit on the shoulder by a stone thrown from the crowd.

5 Arrested In Capital Pool Riot

The Constitution Atlanta Ga. 6-30-49

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Park police called out all their reserves yesterday to quell disorders at a public swimming pool where Negroes and whites have clashed sporadically the past two days.

Five persons—three whites and two colored—were arrested and at least four injured before the fighting was halted. One of those hurt was Joan Sexton, a 17-year-old white girl who was knocked down by a policeman's horse. She was taken to Casualty Hospital where it was reported two of her toes were fractured.

Bystanders said about 1,000 persons—mostly young men—gathered at Anacostia Park in Southeast Washington where the swimming pool is located. The park is near the usual anchorage of President Truman's yacht, the Williamsburg. 6-30-49

Police took baseball bats and clubs from a number of youths before the sullenly milling crowd was dispersed.

Two of the men arrested—both whites—were charged with passing out handbills and pamphlets without a permit.

Disorders Follow Jim Crow Suspension

Daily World 43 Atlanta, Ga.

WASHINGTON — Disorders at a public swimming pool for the past two days Thursday had resulted in the calling out of park police. Members of the dominant races were said to be clashing.

Five persons--three whites and two colored--were arrested and several injured before fighting was stopped.

Witnesses said some 1,000 persons --mostly youth--gathered at Anacostia Park in Southwest Washington where the swimming pool is located. Baseball bats and clubs were taken from a number of the young men before the crowd was dispersed. Two of the arrested whites were charged with passing out handbills and pamphlets without a permit.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT ACTION 7-1-49

The clashes followed the removal of Jim Crow rules by the Interior Department which maintains the District's park system. The District of Columbia Recreation Board, which operates the pool said it would remove its employees from the area unless Jim Crow is restored.

The Progressive Party condemned the board because of its apparent indifference to Jim Crow and the inability to discipline its own guards.

Park police, assisted by district forces who were called out Tuesday maintained a cordon around the Anacostia pool for hours after the fighting had been halted.

One youth was said to have been hurt while fleeing over a fence, while a park policeman was hit on the shoulder by a stone thrown from the milling crowd. A young white woman was knocked down by a policeman's horse, while a youth was bitten under the left eye.

The government swimming pool which figured in the disturbances Thursday was ordered closed by Secretary of the Interior Krug until further notice. Park police said hundreds were involved in the pushing and punching at Anacostia pool.

Pool Closed After Riot

Interior Secretary Krug Acts Quickly

ORDERS IGNORED

Baltimore Md. 7-9-49

White Sympathizers Among Those Jailed

WASHINGTON

After failure of Metropolitan Park Police to curb rowdyism and race rioting at the Anacostia Pool for the seventh straight day, Secretary of the Interior Julius A. Krug announced Wednesday night that the pool would be closed indefinitely.

The decision followed two hours of rioting between white and colored youths, resulting in the reported arrest of five persons and injuries to three.

However, according to witnesses, the number arrested was greater than the five officially listed.

Two colored policemen were reported to have arrested several white youths for carrying concealed weapons—butcher knives.

Several persons were knocked down by mounted police. As a result, a white girl, Joan Sexton, 17, suffered a fractured foot.

Those reported arrested and held temporarily at the 11th Precinct were:

Donald M. Long, 20, of 5424 32nd St., S.E.; Joseph Jackono, 30, and Thomas R. English, 40, all white; Toussaint P. Pierce of 2564 Sheridan Rd., S.E., and Ivan Read, 16, of the 500 block of 25th Place, N.E.

One Hurt Escaping M6b 7-9-49

Among those treated for injuries were:

Park Police Pvt. Julius Campbell, 32, of 920 T St., N.W.; Charles Watson, 21, of 1107 Summer Rd., S.E., and the white girl whose foot was trampled.

Private Campbell was treated at Casualty Hospital for contusions of the right forearm and released. He was said to have been struck by the crowd, after ting his foot climbing over a barbed wire fence to escape cas. He said he went to the pool at 3:30 p.m. to swim and found it closed.

The pool was closed after groups of whites who attacked him. side and gathered up around ganging up on single col-

aid in the park building after cut-

by a stone. Watson received first

Police on Duty Ind

police on duty

11th Precinct and placed in a cell

for one hour before his father,

William H. Pierce, appeared and

group started posted $5 collateral for him on

stones hit them a charge of disorderly conduct.

ers were struck, "I was knocked down by the

being hustled out of

gathered on different s

a 150 white boys and girl

and as he picked up a rock

to throw back, the police grabbed

him. He was rushed off to the

Meanwhile, the police

made no effort to halt t

action here.

After the colored gro

to leave, a hail of stone

and several members w

mounted police who came out from nowhere but was not hurt because luckily I was only brushed. Things happened so fast," he said.

Were Distributing Leaflets

Long and Jackono were attacked while distributing anti-segregation handbills. The irate whites who attacked them reportedly, were led by English, a white social worker. Both Long and Jackono posted $5 collateral and elected to forfeit on charges of distributing handbills.

While the pool was closed last night (Wednesday), a pack of whites who congregated outside the pool, chased a white girl, whom they believed to be a Young Progressive, for several blocks before police belatedly moved in and halted the proceedings.

Beginning Tuesday the recreation program at McKinley Pool was turned over to Government Services, Inc., following withdrawal of Recreation Department workers. Two other white pools may be closed if colored persons decide to use them, it is believed. They are Takoma Park and East Potomac Park.

Earlier, on Tuesday, according to Park Police Capt. Mark Raspberry, a scuffle between white and colored youths was broken up after Lewis Grover, 29, 2725 N St., S.E., and Gilbert Beverly, 17, 1000 Sumner Rd., S.E., were injured.

However, neither participant was hurt badly; and neither wanted to go to the hospital for a checkup.

While none of the white youths were detained, police took Beverly to the Park Police office at the pool for questioning as well as a white girl sympathizer, Ida Jane Galpert, whose address was given as 51 Randolph Pl., N.W. Both were released.

Miss Galpert, membership chairman of the Young Progressives, suffered a cut thumb when she was cornered by a group of irate white girls in the locker room, and reportedly was taken into custody when she refused to leave the pool.

Prejudiced Questions Asked

She said, she was subjected to violence because she was seen talking to colored youths at the pool, she charged police with asking her whether she approved of interracial marriage and whether she was a Communist, among other extraneous questions.

Captain Raspberry denied this, and said that these subjects were brought up by Miss Galbert without prompting. He said she was not asked if she was a member of the Young Progressives.

On Monday a group of some 30 colored youths came to the pool about 2:30 p.m., dressed in swimming suits. While in the shower room, a fight broke out during which one of the colored boys received a broken nose, and the white youth was cut over the eye. The fight was broken up quickly by park police.

U. S. And City Fuss Over Policy After Washinaton Swim Pool Riot

WASHINGTON—The law-blinded race prejudice which led to juvenile rioting over swimming facilities in St. Louis and Youngstown spread to the Nation's capital where Interior Department officials have been forced to close the Anacostia swimming pool after five persons-three white and two Negroes—were arrested and at least four others injured in a free-for-all which broke out over the non-segregated use of the Government-controlled facility.

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Floridian Flogged by White Mob

Terror Leaves Victim's Mind Complete Blank

ORLANDO, Fla.—Has mob terrorism in Florida accomplished the objective of thoroughly cowing colored people here?

The case of Manzie Thomas of 437 Jernigan St., who after being kidnapped from his home near midnight and flogged by a white mob reportedly told police he could give them no clues as to his attackers, seems to prove that it has.

Taken from his home last week, by a mob of men from two automobiles who, police said he told them, were dressed in khaki and were not masked, Thomas was carried to a wooded area beyond Fairvilla where he was made to lie down on the back seat of one of the cars and was beaten.

He then was released to walk back home and made his way to the town, where he called police.

The officers who responded to his call said that Thomas refused to answer any questions about the incident except that he did not remember or did not know. He said he did not recognize any of the floggers and he did not even know why he had been beaten.

The policemen said the flogging victim had taken a bad beating but evidently "had not suffered any serious consequences."

Sheriff Talks Fast, Scatters Lynch Mob

By the Associated Press.

Tavares, Fla., July 17.—A Florida sheriff told today of "talking pretty fast" to disperse a mob of about 100 armed men who came to take two Negroes from his Jail.

Sheriff W. V. McCall had arrested the two men in connection with the robbery of a white man and the kidnaping and subsequent rape of his wife early yesterday.

McCall said he expected trouble and had moved the suspects to another Jail before the mob arrived last night.

The sheriff said the men who marched to the Jail were armed "to the gills."

'Knew Them All.'

"But I knew them all," he added, "and they were sober, reasonable fellows."

"I sat on the steps in front of the Jail and talked fast. I told them I had a job to do and had to protect my prisoners. I explained I couldn't tell them where the Negroes had been taken. After talking to them for about an hour, they quieted down and went home."

The suspects were taken into custody for questioning after Willie Padgett, Groveland, Fla., told police four Negroes beat and robbed him and then kidnaped his wife.

Fire Into Cafe.

Padgett said the four stopped as he and his wife were stranded on a highway 60 miles from Tampa due to car trouble and offered to help.

He told the sheriff he then was hit on the head, his wallet stolen and his wife driven away in the assailants' car. Mrs. Padgett later was found walking along a highway and was taken to a hospital, wnere she was released today, McCall said.

Returning to Groveland, where it originally had formed Saturday night, the mob drove through the Negro section and fired several times into a cafe, said to belong to the father of one of the suspects in the case. A Negro asleep in the building was unhurt.

About 400 Moved Out.

One or more charges of buckshot also were fired into a Negro house between Groveland and Bay Lake, but no one was at home.

Almost all of Groveland's 400 Negroes were moved out on trucks yesterday to surrounding towns by citizens who feared there might be trouble. A spokesman for a citizens' committee said the Negroes had been assured they would be given police protection upon their return.

The mob dispersed around 4 a.m. today.

Groveland Halts Liquor Sale

GROVELAND, Fla., July 23 (AP)—The National Guard today banned the week-end sale of liquor in this area, recently torn by racial trouble. The order was announced last night as a strange uneasiness settled over this area.

Cars with the lights above their license plates darkened were reported on the move throughout the section where earlier this week armed mobs went on shooting forays and burned three Negro houses.

The week of tension and strife that resulted in the massing of 300 Guardsmen here began last Saturday after a 17-year-old white woman reported that she had been raped by four Negroes. Her husband was beaten and robbed.

Crime Roundup—

Three Confess Attack On Girl In Florida, Mob Violence Cools

GROVELAND, Fla., July 18—(AP)—Three Negroes confessed the rape of a young white woman and the robbery of her husband as the threat of mob violence apparently subsided.

National Guard troops were called out yesterday to maintain order in this Central Florida town after a heavily armed mob tried to take two of the Negroes out of jail.

The Ku Klux Klan was in evidence, too. Pamphlets titled "Ideals of the Ku Klux Klan" were tossed from a group of about 20 cars which passed through.

Sheriff W. V. McCall identified the suspects as Charlie Greenlee, Samuel Shepherd and Walter Irvin, all about 20. They are being held in undisclosed jails. A fourth Negro still is being sought.

* * *

THEY ADMITTED they robbed and beat Willie Padgett of Groveland, then kidnaped and raped his 17-year-old wife, Sheriff McCall said.

Police Chief George Mays of Groveland said "there may be demonstrations for another night or two but I don't expect any violence."

Sheriff McCall quieted the mob of about 100 men that gathered at the county courthouse in Tavares Saturday night.

* * *

THE NEGROES HAD been moved to another jail before the mob arrived, McCall said.

The sheriff said the men who marched to the jail were armed "to the gills. But I knew them all and they were sober, reasonable fellows.

"I sat on the steps in front of the jail and talked fast. I told them I had a job to do and had to protect my prisoners."

Padgett said four Negroes stopped as he and his wife were stranded by car trouble. They first offered to help, Padgett said, but then he was hit on the head, his wallet stolen and his wife taken away in the Negroes' car.

Mrs. Padgett later was found walking along a highway and taken to a hospital. She was released Sunday to go to her father's home.

Sheriff McCall said Shepherd and Irvin were discharged from the Army not long ago, and recently served a jail sentence for assault in a Northwestern state. He was uncertain which one.

Tear Gas Used on Mob In Florida Race Row

GROVELAND, Fla.—(AP)—Mob violence broke out in this central Florida farm section last night as fire was set to a group of Negro houses two miles west of here.

GROVELAND, Fla.—(AP)—Sheriff W. V. McCall used tear gas last night to break up a mob of armed men who rode shooting through the Negro section of Stuckey, a small community five miles west of here.

The disturbance was the latest development in three days of tension which have gripped this section since four Negroes assaulted a 17-year-old woman after robbing and beating her husband. Three Negroes have been arrested and have admitted participation in the crime.

The Lake County Sheriff sped to the scene with Florida highway patrolmen when informed of the shooting. An estimated 40 to 50 shots were fired into the air.

None of the Negro residents of the community were seen.

The incident occurred not long after Sheriff McCall asked for National Guardsmen again last night to patrol Groveland.

Sheriff McCall followed the mob to a country road, where he talked to them and they agreed to disband. As the crowd broke up, one unidentified member said:

"We know we can't fight the law."

He and several others said there would be no more trouble.

No Mobs After White Culprits

"Sheriff Talks Fast—Scatters Lynch Mob," are the bold headlines in The Courier-Journal.

Lynch murder, rape, and orgies—more heinous, brutal or shocking when perpetrated by Negro Americans than when perpetrated by white Americans? If so, why?

During the last month in various sections of the country the most brutal and unspeakable crimes have been committed against white women, girls and boys, where Negroes are not suspected; but at no time, even when the victims have been innocent children, has a mob of outraged white men armed themselves to take the law into their own hands, to lynch the culprit or suspect. Are crime and justice color blind?

Democracy should guarantee freedom from fear to all citizens—shame.

MRS. H. E. PAYNE.
Louisville.

Grand Jury Indicts 3; Mob Spirit Tense

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

TAVARES, Fla. (INS)— Three 20-year old Negroes were under indictment Thursday night for criminal assualt on a young white woman--an incident which set off a wave of terrorism in Lake County.

Fri. 7-22-49

A special grand jury returned the indictments late last Wednesday night against Charlie Greenlee, Samuel Shepherd and Walter Irvin. The jury was in session for six hours before returning the true bills.

A Negro served on the 18-man jury which returned the indictment Court attaches said it is believed to be the first time in history that a Negro has served on such a body.

The three are expected to be brought to trial at a special session of court within two weeks.

No mention was made in the indictments of a fourth Negro said to be involved in the admitted attack on a 17-year old white woman after her husband was slugged and robbed on a highway near Groveland.

The jury also failed to take any action against members of mobs which burned several Negro homes in the county. As well as firing numerous shots into colored homes.

National Guardsmen, called out twice to put an end to the reign of terrorism remain in the area.

Confusion In Quito

Enraged because they had been terrified by a too realistic broadcast of an imaginary "invasion from Mars," a mob in Quito, Ecuador, wrecked the newspaper building which housed the radio station, killed 15 persons and injured as many others. The action of the infuriated crowd of Ecuadorians would be more difficult to understand if Orson Welles hadn't staged a similar broadcast in this country in 1938.

The staff of the Quito broadcasting station seems to have gone about its program with a high degree of efficiency. Actors were employed to impersonate the minister of the interior, a priest and other characters, making appeals in the "emergency." Lurid details, naming specific places, were given of the "invasion," and the result was all that could have been wished for—up to a certain point.

When the populace began milling frantically about the streets and fleeing into the countryside, the radio staffers realized they had gone too far. They appealed to the people to be calm and assured them the program was all fictional. This appeal had one effect: it allayed the fears of the citizenry. But it did not make them calm. On the contrary, it quickly turned their fear to rage, with the radio station and the newspaper which owned it as its target.

* * *

A mob quickly surged on the building occupied by the newspaper and the radio station. An interesting sidelight was furnished by the fact that police were slow in breaking up the mob because the constabulary had gone to a nearby town which the broadcast had said was the scene of the "invasion."

When Orson Welles broadcast his version of H. G. Wells' "The War of Worlds," people in and around New York, especially in New Jersey, were frightened. Many prayed in the streets; others armed themselves and prepared to sell their lives dearly. There was also much anger. But there was no violence—though it might not have been safe for Welles to have ventured into certain parts of New Jersey that night.

But blood runs hotter, tempers are shorter, and the gullibility of ignorance is probably more widespread in parts of Ecuador than it is in the urban areas surrounding New York. At any rate, Ecuadorian broadcasters have learned what those in this country have known — or should know — that radio is a powerful instrument with which it is dangerous to take unwise liberties.

Negro Mob Victim Wins $2,000 in Chicago Suit

CHICAGO, Feb. 3 (AP)—A Superior Court jury Thursday ordered the city of Chicago to pay a Negro $2,000 because it failed to protect him from mob violence in a race flare-up.

The jury awarded the damages to Kenneth Kennedy, twenty-four-year-old law student. He was injured two years ago in an attack by a crowd of white persons when several Negro families attempted to move into a mixed race housing project in a white district.

Mr. Kennedy testified he was attacked by a crowd of 100 persons who surrounded his car when he came to the southwest side project in December, 1946. He was pummeled by his attackers and his car was overturned. The assault cost him the hearing in one ear and back injuries, he testified.

WHITE MEN FLOG NEGRO

Two automobiles filled with white men last night kidnapped Manzie Thomas, Negro, from his home, 47 Jernigan St., carried him to a wooded area beyond Fairvilla where a flogging was administered to the Negro and then he was released to walk back home.

The Orlando detective bureau were notified of the kidnapping last night by residents near the Negro's home. The cars driven by the white men were believed to be a Chevrolet and a Studebaker. The kidnapping occurred prior to midnight.

Thomas made his way to a telephone in Fairvilla after the flogging and called the police department. He told detectives J. R. Beach and John Willard, who questioned him, that he did and that he did not know why he was beaten.

Beach said that some of the neighbors of Thomas observed two car loads of men drive up to the Negro's house and that were said to be dressed in khaki and that they were not masked.

Thomas refused to answer any questions about the incident except that he did not remember or did not know.

The detectives said the Negro took a bad beating but evidently had not suffered any serious consequence.

The only information Thomas furnished was that he was made to lie down in the back seat of one of the cars, that he was taken out into the woods and forced to lie face down on the ground while he was being whipped. He did not even know what instrument was used to administer the flogging," Beach said.

Reprint from Orlando Evening Star under date of Thursday, March 3, 1949.

Editor's Note

Communicants of the City Beautiful were shocked last Thursday when the news spread over the city of the above incident which occurred following a fine observance of Brotherhood Week activities which should at least ingenda respectful law and order if nothing more. It is often said that we have too many laws on our city, county, and state statue books, a point which I do not argue but I do insist that every citizen white and black should at least adhere to the ones that we have and if they are inadequate we should enact additional laws to cover whatever crime or crimes that do not come within the scope of our present laws.

I do not condone crime but as all well meaning Americans feel that we have various law enforcement agencies to apprehend and punish criminals from the police oficers to the federal investigating agents. The above actions on the part of any individual or group is not only a reflection upon our system of law and order, but is also an intimidation of innocent citizens; and last but not least a damging blow to Americans democracy and world leadership which brings serious minded Americans to a deeper realization of the need for more and more community wide observance of international prayer days. Like unto the local inter-racial meeting of the World Day of Prayer observance held at the First Presbyterian Church last Friday, March 4, 1949.

It was truly heart rendering to visit the home of the above named victim and found his children shivering in fear with the front door of their home standing wide open on a wintery evening like unto last Thursday night when this humble writer called to make an investigation. One could not blame them for their attitudes after hearing their terrifying story. There may be those who disagree with me but such actions hurt our whole community in more ways than one.

Judge Townsend Says 10 In Mob Already Known

Atlanta Daily World 4-13 Atlanta, Ga. Sun, 4-17-49

Warns America Is No Place For Intolerance

A high Georgia jurist, speaking Friday before members of the Chattanooga Civitan Club, condemned mob violence and defended justice under the law, when he charged Dade County sheriff Lynch and three of his deputies with assisting hooded mobsters in the flogging outrage upon seven Negroes near the Tennessee and Georgia line.

The Judge was J. M. C. "Red" Townsend, of the Georgia Court of Appeals, who denounced the Sheriff for his lackadaisical attitude in yielding to the whims of the Klan members. The Judge quoted from an editorial which appeared in The Atlanta Journal which charged the Sheriff with direlection of his sworn duty when the mob took the Negroes. "In Old England," the Journal editorial began, "the county sheriff was somebody to be reckoned with. He rode a high horse, and his sway over the countryside not to be challenged." And with reference to the Dade Sheriff, The Journal said:

EDITORIAL CITED 43

Sheriff Lynch, Dade county's strong arm of the law, and three of his deputies arrested the Negroes in a raid on a Negro Woman's house where "wild parties" had been reported. The masked mob took the prisoners away from the sheriff, burned a cross, and then administered the whipping. Sun 4-17-49

"Had Sheriff Lynch stood his ground and defied the mob, upholding the law as he was sworn to do, he would have done his state and Nation a matchless service. As it is, the kindest thing to say is that he should have chosen a less hazardous profession."

Judge Townsend, concluding his citation of the Journal's editorial said:

"To this I want to add that he (the sheriff) is a liar and a disgrace to the Democratic form of Government."

NO COMMENT

Sheriff Lynch, when informed of Judge Townsend's attack, said he had no comment.

Judge Townsend stated that the Negroes who were "beaten until the blood ran down their backs," were seized at the home of a woman whose father died fighting for American liberties in World War I. Four of the Negroes beaten, the Judge said, were veterans of World War II.

"We have already called on the FBI and we have the identities of ten men, including the Sheriff, deputies, and mobsters," the Judge declared.

"I am not afraid," the Judge was quoted as saying, "and I don't care if my job makes enemies for me. But America is no place for anybody who can't live and stand beside people of all colors and religions."

Riot Crowd Dispersed

Chicago, July 20 (AP).—Fifty police dispersed a crowd of 1000 and arrested one white man last night after a Negro family moved into its newly purchased house in a neighborhood dominated by white families.

Chicago Police Patrols To Halt Race Trouble

CHICAGO, Nov. 14 — (AP) — More than 100 policemen continued today to patrol a Southside neighborhood where disorders last week resulted in the arrest of 58 persons.

Police said the tension in the district was stirred by false rumors Negro families are to be moved into the area.

There were no outbreaks yesterday or last night but police maintained a detail of 180 officers. The sporadic street demonstrations in the neighborhood of the 5600 block of South Peoria Street broke out last Tuesday night.

Several hundred people milled in the neighborhood last Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights but police said there were no large crowds in the area last night.

Thirty-two persons were arrested Saturday night and early Sunday morning. Many seized were juveniles. Most of the persons arrested were charged with disorderly conduct. Five of those arrested were Negroes.

Five persons, including two Negroes, have suffered minor injuries in fighting in the neighborhood.

Rumor Leads To Chicago Trouble

CHICAGO—(ANS)— Over 400 policemen were required early Saturday to disband a racial row in a South Side neighborhood. It was estimated that about 1,200 persons were involved in the disturbances. The groups gathered, according to the Commission on Human Relations, in the mistaken belief that Negro families intended to move into the area which is populated mostly by white persons. No Negroes were involved in the disturbances, however.

32 Are Jailed After Race Riot

CHICAGO, Nov. 13—(AP)—Thirty-two persons were arrested last night and early today after two assaults occurred in a South Side neighborhood where disorders have been reported between whites and Negroes during the last five nights.

Two men were beaten. Most of those arrested were charged with disorderly conduct.

Police said the tension was stirred up by false rumors, which continue to persist, that Negro families are to be moved into the area.

Since the outbreak of sporadic street demonstrations in the neighborhood of the 5600 block of South Peoria Street last Tuesday night, 58 persons have been seized. Many of them were juveniles.

Five Negroes were among those held after the incidents last night. They were the first Negroes arrested in connection with the trouble.

One of the incidents last night culminated in the beating of Edward Harris, 24, a Negro student at the University of Chicago.

Police said Harris had a knife with a six-inch blade in his pocket. He was charged with carrying a concealed weapon.

The other assault victim was Garnes Cummings, 20-year-old Negro, who said three men chased him into an alley and pummeled him. He was not arrested.

Chicagoans Jail 58 In Near Riot

CHICAGO—In a move to avert a possible riot, Chicago authorities late last week tossed 58 white hoodlums into jail and assigned extra-heavy police guards in two neighborhoods.

In one area, the southwest side, the report that attracted a milling mob of disgruntled whites was false. As a result of a union meeting in a neighborhood home, attended by a mixed group of workers, rumors were circulated that Negroes were going to live in the area.

At 74th street and South Parkway, mob action was again threatened when Negroes were moved into an apartment building they had purchased.

Two Beaten, 32 Arrested In Chicago Race Brawls

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Eight of the youths arrested earlier asked for jury trials when they were arraigned Saturday in Stockyards Court on disorderly conduct charges. They were directed to appear Nov. 21 in the Jury Branch of Municipal Court. Most of the others were scheduled to appear in Boys' Court today.

The third flare-up occurred when whites found the NAACP Youth Council in a Chicago suburb had thrown a picket line around a biased restaurant. The climax in this affair came when the home of one of the female student pickets was burned.

A four-block area around 57th and Peoria streets, was the scene of the first interracial clash.

Chicago Warrants Charge Riot Crimes To 37 Persons

CHICAGO—(NNPA) — Warrants charging conspiracy to riot and to commit a crime against the people of Illinois were issued Monday, December 12, by Judge Fred Slater in Stock Yards Court against thirty-seven men who previously had been booked for disorderly conduct in connection with recent race riots in the vicinity of Fifty-sixth and Peoria streets.

The new warrants were issued after attorneys, who said they represented the Chicago conference to End Mob Violence, complained that the thirty-seven men should face more serious charges.

The thirty-seven defendants also were named in warrants charging assault and battery and assault with a deadly weapon issued on complaint of Warren Ellman, 25, of 2112 Barry avenue, identified as a Roosevelt College student.

Lawyer Wins $2,000 For Riot Victim

Ulysses S. Keys, noted Chicago barrister, scored a sensational legal triumph over the City of Chicago recently when an all-white jury awarded his client, Kenneth Kennedy, a John Marshall Law School student, $2,000 damages for injuries suffered in the 1946 Airport Housing project race riot.

This judgment was the first in a mob violence case in Illinois within the last 25 years, and sets a precedent for the 30-odd pending cases growing out of an attempt by whites to keep Negro veterans from living in a GI project.—(INP photo.)

Pair Stabbed After Detroit Gridiron Riot

DETROIT—(AP)—Conflicting accounts made it impossible to fix blame in the riot which broke up a high schol football game Friday night, police admitted yesterday.

As a result of the fighting, two persons were in hospitals with serious knife wounds.

More than 1,000 fans joined in the melee. It started when a Negro player and a white player began slugging each other on the gridiron.

Afterwards, a Negro man and his wife told police they were attacked by about four knife-wielding white youths outside the stadium.

Melvindale police denied there was any racial aspect to the rioting. However, the Melvindale team was all white while there were seven Negroes of the starting lineup for River Rouge High School. They played in Melvindale, an all-white community.

Main cause of the outburst of temper was the hot rivalry between the schools, witnesses said They were both unbeaten and the league championship was at stake.

Fighting broke out on the gridiron in the final minutes. River Rouge was awarded a 7-0 victory even though the game was not completed.

Four persons were injured, three from knife wounds. In serious condition at Wayne County Hospital were Viola Higgins, 34, a Negro, and Gerald Biskner, 19, white.

Fighting between players in the final minutes of the game between Melvindale and River Rouge schools set off the riot.

Passions had risen to fever pitch as Melvindale struggled to overcome a one-touchdown advantage held by its old rival. Both teams were unbeaten.

Violet Higgins, 34, a Negro, was in serious condition at Wayne County hospital with a stab wound in the back. Her husband, Branch, 44, was released pending investigation of felonious assault, police Lt. Stanley Machurski said.

Higgins told police about four white youths pulled him and his wife from their car a block from the stadium after the riot.

Officers were checking two knives taken from the youths to determine which had stabbed Mrs Higgins. They were investigating Higgins' counterattack on the youths.

Machurski said police believed no racial issue was involved in the stadium fight, although the squabble that set it off was reportedly between a white and a colored player.

The Melvindale team was all white. Their opponents were mixed. The fight was along school lines rather than racial.

Although the game was never completed, River Rouge was awarded a 7-0 victory.

Also in serious condition was Jack Lowe, 23, injured in the back. Gerald Biskner, 19, was treated for a knife wound in the side. Higgins suffered a cut hand.

Police Lt. Anton Hill said more than one thousand of the 5000 fans engaged in the fighting.

It took 10 minutes for the eight policemen at the stadium to get the mob under control

FANS' RIOT ENDS FOOTBALL GAME

Hundreds Pour Onto Field; Three Knifed

(The Associated Press)

Detroit, Mich., Nov. 5—A thousand howling, fist-swinging fans poured from the stands Friday night and broke up a hotly contested high school football game in which three persons were knifed.

Two football players were knocked unconscious. A policeman was slightly injured. Scores were battered and bruised.

Keen Rivalry—Not Race Tension—Caused Grid Riot

By International News Service

DETROIT, Mich. — Tempers inflamed because of the keen rivalry between the opposing teams, instead of racial tension, provoked the high school football game at which three persons were seriously injured, Friday night, is the general opinion here.

The game was being played between the River Rouge and Melvindale High School, in Melvindale, an all-white community. The local team was composed of all white players, while there were seven Negroes on the starting lineup for the River Rouge team. However, Melvindale police deny that there was any racial aspect to the riot.

The melee started when a Negro player and a white player began slugging each other on the gridiron. Afterwards a colored man and his wife told police they were attacked by about four knife-wielding white youths outside the stadium.

One man is under arrest on charges of felonious assault.

Two of the three persons hospitalized suffered stab wounds in the back.

Eight officers stationed at Riddering Field during the game said approximately 1,500 spectators participated in the riot.

The game was not completed but Rouge was declared the official winner because the score stood at 7-0 when the riot began.

CRUCIAL GAME

It was one of the most crucial games of the year for the two teams, with the winner favored to win the Twin Valley title.

Police said tension mounted through the game with partisans for each school—on opposite sides of the field—jeering each other and officials.

The crowd poured onto the field as the teams lined up for the last play of the game. Players from both teams reportedly fought with spectators and other players.

CROWDS DISPERSED

Reserves of police helped disperse the crowd but some fighting broke out again on streets away from the stadium.

Hospitalized were Gerald Biskner, 18, of Melvindale, and Mrs. Viola Higgins, 33, of River Rouge, both suffering stab wounds of the back, and Jack Lowe, 22, of Melvindale, a back injury.

Under arrests is Mrs. Higgins' husband, Branch, 44, who was found carrying a fishing knife. Mrs. Higgins and Biskner were stabbed a block from the field as the riot broke up.

Deny Tension Set Off Riot

DETROIT—Although Negro fans going home from the game were attacked without provocation and knifed, police here denied that racial tension had anything to do with the riot that followed a football game between River Rouge and Melvindale High Schools, Saturday.

Mrs. Viola Higgins and a white youth, Gerald Biskner were in Wayne County Hospital after the melee. Mrs. Higgins and her husband said they were dragged from their car by knife wielding white youths.

The riot started when a Negro player from River Rouge and a white player from Melvindale began fighting on the field. The two schools are bitter rivals, and the league championship was at stake. River Rouge which has Negro players was awarded the game over Melvindale, an all-white school.

Scores Hurt as Football Fans Riot at Mixed Game

DETROIT—Three persons were injured, two of them seriously, when 1000 howling, fist-swinging fans poured from the stands Friday night and broke up a thrilling high school football game between Melvindale (all-white) and River Rouge (mixed team) with a riot.

Two of the players were knocked unconscious, a policeman was slightly hurt, and scores of fans were battered and bruised.

The riot was sparked when a white and a colored player began fighting in the final minutes of the game as Melvindale struggled to overcome a one-touchdown advantage held by its old rival. Both teams were unbeaten.

Although the game was never completed, River Rouge was awarded a 7-0 victory.

Mrs. Violet Higgins, 34, colored who was stabbed in the back, is in serious condition at Wayne County Hospital.

Her husband, Branch, 44, was cut on the hand when he surprised four white youths, who pulled him and his wife from their car a block from the stadium after the riot, by launching a counter attack against them.

He was released pending investigation of the felonious assault. Officers took two knives from the youths to determine which had stabbed Mrs. Higgins.

St. Louis Riot Victim Awaits Police Check

Journal & Leader, Mansfield, Va. Sat. 7-2-49

Beaten and bloody, a colored St. Louis resident sits in the middle of the street while police check members of the mob which attacked and stoned him during a riot on June 21. The trouble started when colored citizens were permitted to use swimming pools in public parks along with whites for the first time.

INCIDENT IN ST. LOUIS

When Mayor Joseph M. Darst of St. Louis rescinded an order which ended segregation at municipal playgrounds and pools, he played right into the hands of the city's hoodlum element.

Youths of both races swam together without incident last week following a no-segregation order issued by John J. O'Toole, director of public welfare.

But when some of the colored youths sought to leave the park, a group of white hoodlums, waiting outside, attacked them, fomenting what could easily have been a serious racial outbreak.

Weak-kneed Mayor Darst immediately ordered a return to the previous jim-crow arrangement. In doing so, he took dictation from the mob.

Had he stood behind his public welfare director and ordered his police chief to arrest those responsible for the disorder, he would have put fear into the hearts of the offenders while showing that democracy CAN be made to work.

Instead, he has given encouragement to mob violence by siding with the mobbists. No citizen of St. Louis is safe as long as the acts of criminals can draw an official wink.

According to reliable information, swimmers of both races got along fine. It was the hoodlum element which expressed its disapproval in violence. Some have gone so far as to say that the hoodlums were hired with full knowledge of some high city officials.

We believe that such an element in St. Louis is not representative of its citizenry. Law and order require strict enforcement. Mayor Darst should rescind his own action. It is not too late to atone for his blunder.

Six Hurt In Fights Over Segregation Ban

ST. LOUIS, June 21—(AP)—Six persons have been injured in a series of fights between groups of white and Negroes in a north St. Louis park today.

Police said a crowd of between 4,000 and 5,000 persons was milling around in the area.

Police said the fights started between about 250 white boys and 50 Negro youths.

Mayor Joseph M. Darst rescinded a one-day-old order banning segregation in public parks and playgrounds.

Racial Violence Still Going On In St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, June 24—(AP)— Isolated disturbances between Negroes and whites broke out again last night. They were an aftermath of trouble that flared in a St. Louis park Tuesday. The violence began when city-owned swimming pools were temporarily opened to members of both races.

One white youth was seriously hurt and several other persons suffered minor injuries in separate incidents.

CHIEF OF POLICE Jeremiah O'Connell said extra police and squad cars will patrol the city for an indefinite period. He attributed all of the trouble to teen-agers.

John Tabaka, 16, suffered a skull fracture. He was in serious condition at City Hospital. He told police three Negro boys threw bricks at him and several companions.

* * *

A NEGRO YOUTH was hospitalized with possible internal injuries. He was attacked by three white youths near his home. A cleaning company truck driver reported he was attacked by a group of about 18 Negro youths. He was not seriously hurt.

Two persons were struck by rocks thrown at streetcars. A bus passenger was cut on the arm when a knife was thrust through a window of the bus.

NONSEGREGATION RULE BRINGS ST. LOUIS ROW; Order Quickly Dropped After White Boys Club Negroes

ST. LOUIS, June 21.—(AP)—Between 200 and 250 white boys clubbed negro boys in a North St. Louis park—the first day after the city administration ordered park playgrounds and pools opened to both negroes and whites.

Mayor Joseph M. Darst immediately descinded the order banning segregation.

Police restored order. A white boy was stabbed and a negro cut on the head. Police ordered all boys found with clubs out of the park (Fairgrounds) and escorted about 50 negro youths several blocks from the park.

Swimming in the pool began at the regular opening time of 2 p.m. The negro boys and about five times as many white boys swam together for 45 minutes.

The trouble started when some of the negro boys left the pool. A group of white youths struck at them with ball bats and heavy sticks.

One policeman reported he took a six-inch knife from a 16-year-old white boy. Other white boys tried to run down negroes with bicycles.

Several bicycles, many belonging to negroes, were badly damaged.

ST. LOUIS RETURNS TO RACIAL POLICY

Clash at Swimming Pool Ends Order, Effective One Day, for Nonsegregation

By WILLIAM M. BLAIR

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

ST. LOUIS, June 21 — A order ouening the city's nine municipal swimming pools and thirty-five playgrounds to joint use by Negroes and whites was rescinded late today by Mayor Joseph M. Darst after a battle at the Fairground Park Pool. The order was in effect one day.

Nearly 200 'teen-age white boys attacked some fifty Negro boys with baseball bats and heavy sticks. The youths had swum together for the first time in the history of the city. The attacks started after the Negro boys left the water. Several bicycles were smashed before police restored order and escorted the Negro boys to safety.

Mayor Darst said he was directing John J. O'Toole, Director of Public Welfare, "in the interest of the general public to adhere to the time-honored policy" of separate pools for Negroes and whites.

"At the same time, I appeal to the citizens for voluntary compliance and to the leaders of both races for cooperation with city authorities in maintaining and further improving our splendid race relations record," he added.

Mr. O'Toole issued the nonsegregation order yesterday soon after the pools were opened for the summer.

His order read: "If Negroes apply for admission to municipal pools, they are not to be refused." He said the order, directed to Palmer B. Baumes, Park Commissioner, also applied to the playgrounds.

"I have no lawful right to take any other stand," he said. "The Negroes pay their taxes, they are citizens and they have a right to use public property."

Until the nonsegregation order, the city had reserved three indoor pools for Negroes. Two outdoor and four other indoor pools had been reserved for whites. Eight of the thirty-five playgrounds had been for Negroes.

The Negro boys were attacked as they emerged from locker rooms. The white boys chased them through the park, striking at them with the sticks and bats. Several suffered head injuries. One policeman took a six-inch hunting knife from the waistband of a white boy. The Negroes returned later to claim smashed bicycles, but none applied for admission to the pool at afternoon sessions.

Police Rule As St. Louis Riot Subsides

ST. LOUIS—(UP)—Reinforced police details kept the peace last night over St. Louis' North Side following racial disorders that broke out as a result of the temporary lifting of segregation at municipal swimming pools.

The outdoor pools at Fairgrounds Park, scene of the disturbances in which 15 persons were stabbed or beaten; Marquette Park, and the indoor pool at the Mullanphy Center, where Whites and Negroes swam without incident yesterday, were closed indefinitely.

Mayor Joseph M. Darst rescinded the non-segregation order after the first disorders late Tuesday "in the interest of public safety." He said the city would resume its "time-honored policy of separate pools."

Police guards were stationed at the homes and offices of top city officials. Patrolmen moved in pairs through the city's parks.

Darst said he would call a conference in the next few days of citizens "well-informed on race relations" to discuss the situation generally.

Civic leaders, both White and Negro, generally expressed belief that a principal cause of the sporadic fighting was the suddenness with which Public Welfare Director John J. O'Toole announced the ban on segregation at the nine pools.

O'Toole's order was announced Monday night, without any prior indication of such to the public. The disturbances began shortly after the Fairgrounds pool opened to admit Negro children for the first time. Some 250 white teenagers drove about 50 Negroes from the Park.

From then on until early yesterday, emergency squads of 200 police and detectives were pressed into action to halt intermittent flurries of violence in and around Fairgrounds Park.

A White youth and a Negro suffered serious stab wounds. There were only eight arrests made and seven of these were of injured men.

At the height of the disturbance, following the stabbing of Roland Erbar, 20, by a Negro in a locker room of the pool, the crowd of more than 5,000 persons shouted defiance at police. A police guard was placed at the home of a University City resident, with the same name as that of the welfare director, who reported he had received telephoned threats of violence.

Mayor Names Group To Aid In Tense Race Situation

By International News Service

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—A 15-member Council on Human Relations has been appointed to study interracial problems in St. Louis.

Head of the group, which is scheduled to meet in the next few days, is Russell L. Dearmont, lawyer and board chairman of the Eighth Federal Reserve District.

Appointment of council by Mayor Joseph Darst to replace segregation ban was lifted at

"The purpose of the council is to advise city government on matters affecting interracial activity and it will work to give St. Louisians a chance to develop their talents without being limited by discrimination."

The mayor announced, meanwhile, that he was considering the city's swimming pools and playgrounds.

Darst declared:

swimming pool for Negroes. He explained that of nine pools in the city Negroes presently have use of only three indoor ones.

SEGREGATION REINSTITUTED

Darst immediately ordered that segregation be reinstituted at pools when the fights broke out. At least 13 persons were injured in scuffles at Fairground Park Pool. No incidents were reported at Mulanphy Pool, where whites and Negroes also swam together.

In the words of the mayor, the council's objectives will include:

"Encouragement of community support for such legislative and educational programs designed to combat those misconceptions, prejudices and untruths which tend to set group against group; the institution of programs directed against tensions created by ignorance and bigotry; elimination of discrimintory practices, and the removal of inequality of opportunity in employment, education, law enforcement, housing and recreation."

Two of the fifteen members of the council are colored They are C. B. Broussard, president of the St. Louis Urban League, and Mrs. Esther Bowler, wife of a Lincoln University (Missouri) educator. Three other members are yet to be named.

NEW FLARE UP

Isolated disturbances between the races are reported to have broken out again Thursday night of last week as an aftermath of the trouble that flared up Tuesday.

Chief of Police Jeremiah O'Connell said extra police and squad cars will patrol the city for an indefinite period in view of the tense situation. He attributed all of the trouble to teen-agers.

RALPH McGILL

The Sort of Headlines We Want

Recently, in St. Louis, Mo., and in Washington, D. C. segregation regulations were removed from swimming pools. Violence followed in each city.

In St. Louis there were knife fights, sluggings and a net result of lynch-spirit which was as sordid in aspect, if not in result, as any Georgia or Alabama have offered of late. In St. Louis the hoodlum element seemed largely to have been involved. In Washington those involved reportedly were younger and of no predominate element. The violence there was considerably less.

In both cities police were on the job. Arrests were made. The trials were scheduled.

The cases received national publicity. In each city the newspapers carried front-page stories and pictures and there followed on the succeeding several days editorial discussion, including letters to the editor.

In the issue of Life magazine, following the incidents, as well as in issues of Time, Newsweek, and other publications, these incidents of violence received adequate space. Indeed, Life magazine published a full-page picture of a Negro boy, badly beaten, in the St. Louis riot. This will receive wide republication in the Communist newspapers and magazines in this country, in Europe, Central and South America.

Perspective I put all this in as a sort of preamble to the development of a point I wish to make. It is charged by many Southerners, some sincere and some not at all so, that national magazine publications and newspapers in the North publish nothing about racial violence unless it occurs in the South.

This is not true, and never has been true. No newspaper or magazine I know plays down such news. The exception would be a few of the weekly papers over the Nation which erroneously think that by not printing the news they can somehow make it less awful, or more easily imagine it didn't really happen. The St. Louis papers, as a matter of fact, gave their story much more space, especially pictorially, than any Southern paper has given to one of their own lynchings or race murders within my memory. Editorial discussion was frank and condemning. I also repeat that in each case arrests were made and persons were put in jail. Nowhere was there any attempt to condone or excuse away the violence. These two points are important.

Discussion A number of persons have argued that when violence occurs in other regions, especially north of us, Southern newspapers should take them and banner them in the largest of headlines.

I am sorry. I cannot agree, and I will give reasons. Southern newspapers adequately reported the St. Louis and Washington violences. But, none gave them top heading for the good reason the top heading belonged in the cities where they had occurred There was where that problem was, and is. There is where particular problem has to be worked out.

I cannot see where our exaggerated display of someone else's problem will help solve it. Certainly it will not assist us with our own. All I can see that could be accomplished by it would be to start a campaign of finger-pointing and accusations.

One evil doesn't erase or excuse another.

We cannot remove our own guilt complex by pointing out that others, too, are guilty.

Also, I think it must in candor be said that in neither of these instances of lynch-spirit violence did anyone have on robes or masks.

Protest There is a protest the South can justly register. Much of the comment about the South, its economy and social conditions, is erroneous, ill-tempered, condescending, patronizing and unjust. The honest person must agree we are in part, at least, responsible. We have created our own Achilles heel by failure to apprehend our guilty in many of the hideous racial crimes and, in some, we have freed those suspected of guilt in a manner which shocked the conscience of the nation.

But, because of the fountain of shabby, unjust and untrue statements about the South, many average, uninformed persons in the North, actually believe things about the South and Southern conditions which are fantastically untrue. They are astounded to find that Negroes walk unmolested on sidewalks, are welcomed in stores, ride on elevators, have schools, police, and have accumulated considerable wealth. That a Negro bank in Atlanta should belong to the Federal Reserve Bank System, that a successful and rich Negro insurance business should flourish, that thousands are gainfully employed continually astonish many person from the East who come down in much the state of mind as European visitors who expect to find Indians, cowboys and gun fights between rival gangs as routine sights on the streets of our cities.

This, while true, does not remove or mitigate the fundamental facts of discrimination evils. From them stem our guilt complexes, our chip-on-shoulder attitude, and our dilemma in providing schools, parks and equal, but separate, services.

Conclusion To say that St. Louis has violence and that thereby violence in the South is nullified and all is well and nothing more need be said doesn't quite suit me.

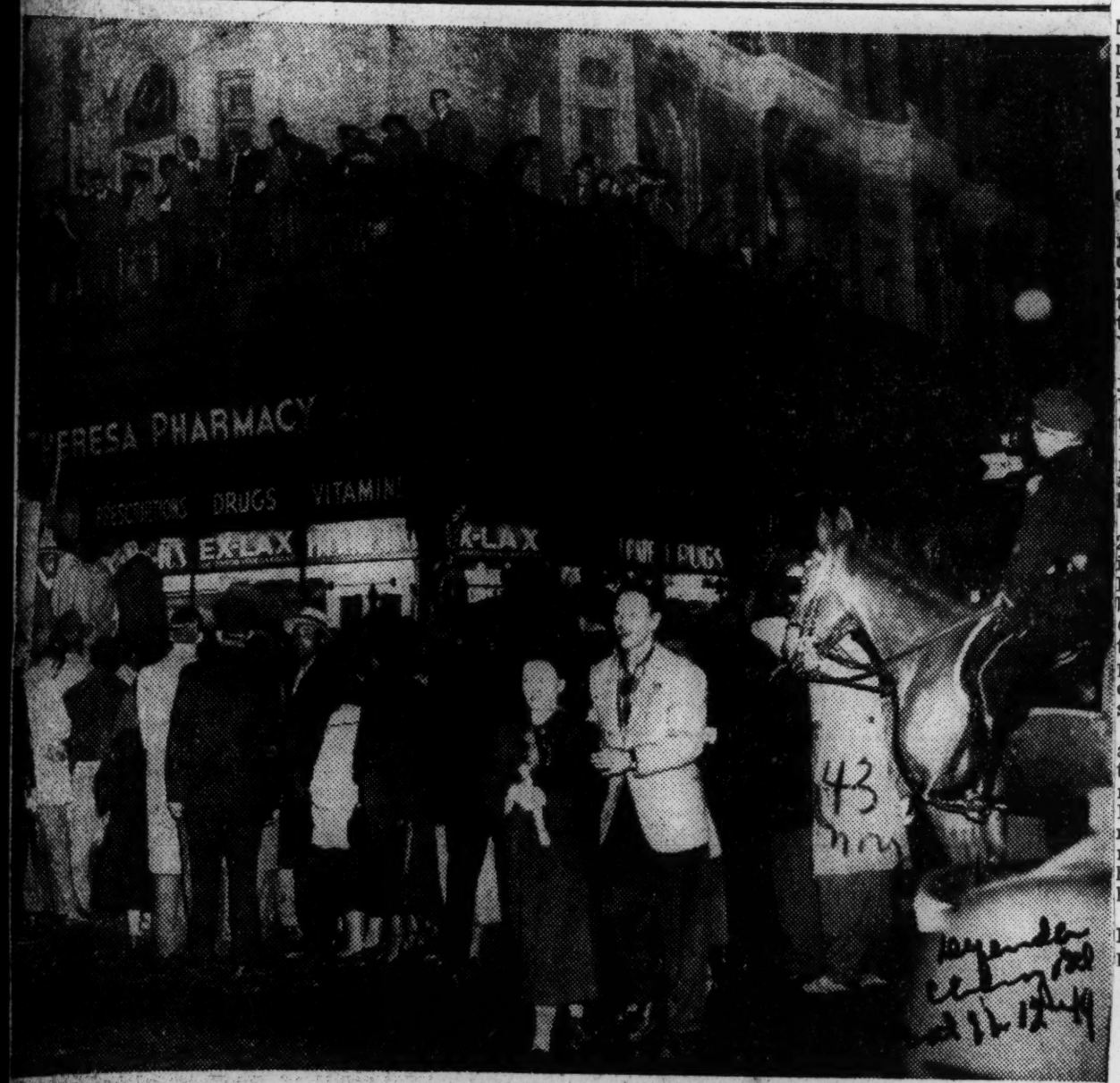
If St. Louis doesn't do anything about it, then we should headline it. The chief reason we get headlines is because of masks and because of the failure of our legal processes.

I believe that many persons, who once gave it little thought, are coming to realize that if a group of men can kill a man, beat a man, or terrorize him—then we just haven't got much government. And I know Americans want government.

Anyhow, I want my candle to cast a beam as far as I can. I am interested in the South. I think too much of it not to want it to be better than it is. Until St. Louis and Washington and other cities fail to set in motion the full processes of government against those guilty of crime, they can handle their own headlines. What I am working for is to have headlines all over the nation read, "Would-Be Dixie Lynch Mob Halted; Members Jailed; Trial Soon." And I want to be around when the headlines read: "No Lynchings or Racial Violence Mar Year; South Leads in Crime Reduction.'

That's the sort of headlines I'm working to see.

Probe Harlem Riot, Blame 'Outsiders' For Flare-Up



WHILE RIOTING FLARED in Harlem when police halted marchers celebrating release on bond of Communist Councilman Ben Davis, Jr., churchman spoke to crowds, calming them, and preventing further fighting. Bishop Edwin Collins appealed for peace from balcony of Theresa Hotel. Police announced "a few" casualties and "a few" arrests.—INP Photo.

Police Brutality Charged By NAACP In Harlem Disturbance

NEW YORK—A full dress probe of the near-riot in Harlem last Thursday night was expected this week as blame for fomenting the clash between police and supporters of Benjamin Davis was placed on "outsiders."

Six policemen were among the injured while four Negroes and two whites were arrested in the disturbance that stopped a torchlight parade down Lenox avenue. The convicted Communist Benjamin Davis who seeks re-election to the city council this week was released on bail only three hours before the fracas started.

A statement issued by eight Roman Catholic priests in Harlem declared that the near-riot was fomented by "outsiders." Police brutality was charged in a wire sent to Mayor O'Dwyer by the New York NAACP.

Earl Brown who is opposing Benjamin Davis in the election this week expressed confidence of victory following the outburst of violence. Brown who is a topflight member of the staff of Life Magazine is being supported by both Democrats and Republicans.

Just before the clash came some 2,000 persons, many of them carrying torchlights, were marching down Lenox avenue with sound trucks blaring a welcome to Ben Davis. On the grounds that the flaring torches menaced bystanders, the police sought to restrain the marchers. The crowd began chanting "we shall not be moved."

Shortly thereafter bricks, bottles and other missles were hurled from the roof tops injuring police and menacing scores of bystanders. Emergency squads of police were rushed to the scene and order was restored only after six police were hurt enough to require temporary hospitalization.

Paul Robeson joined Benjamin Davis in speech-making at several points in Harlem during the night.

Davis Welcome Like Peekskill

Afro's Jimmy Hicks Tells of Terrorism

POLICE ON LOOSE

Women, Children Fall Victims of Brutality

By JAMES L. HICKS

NEW YORK (NNPA)—The riot and police violence which greeted the return of Ben Davis and Henry Winston to Harlem Thursday night, was equal to the violence of the Peekskill riots in which Paul Robeson was the central figure.

I know, because I was trapped right in the middle of it, just as I was caught in the Peekskill riot several weeks ago.

During the welcome to Davis and Winston, convicted Communist leaders who were released in $20,000 bail each, six policemen were injured, six Harlemites were arrested, and an unknown number of Harlemites was clubbed by police.

This city itself saw a brief breakdown of law and order which its citizens and officials had so roundly criticized at Peekskill a few weeks ago.

Women, Children Clubbed

In the brief span of about 20 minutes, police engaged in a free-for-all with about 2,000 residents of Harlem which saw the police at times brutally club men, women and children for no other reason than they happened to be on the streets at that time.

It also saw the Harlemites retaliate by stoning policemen with bricks from the rooftops, smashing the windows of police cars, and literally rushing up to policemen and burning them with flaming torches of fire.

Among those seriously clubbed by policemen was Mrs. Adrianna Bough of 168 Lenox Ave., who was hit in the mouth by a club swung by a policeman. She was on her way home and was taking no part in the welcome to Davis.

John Sutton of Harlem also was seized by police, beaten and thrown in a squad car, but the confusion was so great at the height of the riot that he simply got out of the car and ran away. He suffered the loss of a tooth when he was struck in the face with a police club.

Press Pass No Help

Also struck by a police club, but not injured seriously, was Ted Poston, colored reporter for the New York Post. He was hit on the leg by a club swung by a colored policeman despite the fact that he was wearing his police press pass in his hat at the time.

I myself, was in the midst of the riot when it broke out and was forced, along with Ted, to flee for safety when the police launched the club attack on any and everybody who happened to be in the streets at the time.

Here is the story:

When the afternoon headlines of the New York dailies announced the fact that Davis and the other Communist leaders had been granted bail large crowds of Harlemites began to gather at 126th St. and Lenox Ave., and at 116th St. and Lenox Ave. as early as four o'clock in the afternoon to await Davis's return.

Delayed 2 Hours

They did not know, however, that Davis and the rest were being held up at the Federal courthouse while the Government questioned the validity of the $260,000 in United States Treasury bonds which they had used for bail.

Thus, while Davis was expected in Harlem at about 6:30, he actually did not arrive there until almost nine.

Poston and I hung around the 126th St. meeting until 8:30 and then decided to take a look in at the meeting being held at 116th St.

As we approached 116th St. on Lenox Ave., we could see that the entire sector was brilliantly lit by torches carried in the hands of thousands of Davis supporters who were awaiting him with a torch-light parade.

Horses Prance in Fear

Simultaneously with our arrival, mounted police began to arrive. It was evident from the outset that their horses were frightened by the torches.

The crowd, which by this time, completely filled the east side of Lenox Ave., also quickly realized this and began to terrorize the police horses by waving the flaming torches.

The horses danced around madly through the crowd and the crowd resented it. Nobody can say who passed the first blow in a situation of this kind. I did see John Sutton wave a torch toward one of the horses, and two police immediately ran into the streets, seized him, struck him with their clubs and threw him into a police car.

Rain of Bricks

Then bedlam broke loose. The police charged the crowd, swinging their clubs, hitting everyone they were able to strike. The crowd began to charge up Lenox Ave., about 2,000 strong, with police knocking them down as fast as they could.

Bricks began to rain on the police cars from the roof tops, windows were smahed by the crowd as they ran for cover and police on foot chased them down Lenox Ave. raining blows on them as they ran.

When some of the police overtook the persons carrying torches, they protected themselves by applying the torches to the bodies of the officers.

Poston and I were meeting the crowd. We quickly put our press passes in our hats and continued down Lenox Ave. toward the heart of the disorder.

Didn't Stop to Argue

We met a colored policeman chasing the crowd in the other direction. He made a break for us and we ran different ways. The policeman chased me to the wall of a nearby building and when I called attention to my press card the officer said, "Start running. Who the hell do you think you are?"

I obeyed and ran behind the crowd which was still fleeing up Lenox Ave. while the officer took off in the direction of Poston. He later overtook Poston and struck him with his club.

Finally re-inforcements to the police arrived and the battered crowd dispersed, with the wounded and beaten being corraled into a shop at 315 Lenox Ave. Meanwhile, police sent their wounded to the hopsital.

Meanwhile, Davis, Winston and Paul Robeson had made a speech at 110th St. and moved on to the 126th St. meeting where they made another speech. Then they came down to the Theresa Hotel, where the largest crowd since the Joe-Louis-Walcott fight gathered to hear him make a speech from the hotel balcony.

Riot Victims Ask 2 Millions

Robeson, 27 Others Sue Officials, Vets

By JAMES L. HICKS

NEW YORK, N.Y.—Paul Robeson and 28 of his followers walked into the United States District Court, here, last Thursday, and asked for a cool two million dollars.

According to the Civil Rights Congress, sponsors of the suit, the damages were asked to atone for the personal injury, loss of property and deprivation of their civil rights the 29 suffered during the Peekskill riots of last Aug. 27 and Sept. 4.

Robeson and five other colored victims of the riots joined with novelist Howard Fast and 22 white person in a $2,020,000 damage suit against two veterans organizations and fourteen State and county officials of Westchester County and the City of Peekskill.

They held those named defendants responsible for the violence which followed two attempts of Robeson to sing in Peekskill, last summer. Both concerts ended in riots marked by unmerciful police brutality.

Rights Violations Charged

Included in the list of defendants named in the suit are the superintendent of State police in Westchester, the Westchester County District Attorney and his assistant, the mayor of Peekskill and individual members of the State troopers.

The five colored persons filing suit with Robeson were Antonio Lavezzari, James Hughes, Wilson B. McDonald, Winifred Herring and Frances Smith.

The complaint in each of their cases and that of Robeson stated that as colored persons they were "denied the full and equal benefit of laws and proceedings for the security of persons and property as is enjoyed by white persons."

One Believed Dying

Lavezzari, who was so seriously injured during the last Peekskill riots that he was administered the last rites of the Catholic Church asked for $150,000 in damages and $10,000 for deprivation of his civil rights.

McDonald asked for $100,000; Hearing seeks $25,000 as does Smith; and all of the last four named seek the additional $10,000 for deprivation of their civil rights.

In addition to the damages asked by the plaintiffs, the Civil Rights Congress headed by William Patterson, its executive secretary, seeks damages totaling $100,000 for deprivation of civil rights.

The courts are also requested to enjoin forever officials of Westchester County from interfering with the Robeson group or anyone else who hereafter may seek to peaceably assemble at Peekskill.

Rogge Files Suits

The suit was filed by O. John Rogge, former assistant United States Attorney General. He explained that it was filed under the provisions of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution and also under the provisions of the civil rights acts of 1870 and 1871.

These were acts passed to protect property rights and personal rights of liberated slaves.

They provided that persons deprived of their civil rights by the result of a conspiracy of officials, individuals on organizations, may sue them for injuries received or for deprivation of such rights.

Specifically the suit charged the 14 officials with refusing or neglecting to give protection to the concert-goers when they left the concert. The two veterans organizations, the Veterans Joint Council and the Associated Veterans Council, were charged with conspiring to prevent the concert from being staged.

Action Held Significant

Patterson saw in the suit:

"A historical Federation action which is led by Paul Robeson which aims not only to secure relief for injuries suffered and rights deprived, but to also unmask an official Government policy which exists everywhere, North, South, East and West, under which officials of the Government join with hoodlums and Ku Klux Klan elements to deprive people of their constitutional rights."

Patterson said in addition the suit strikes an "important blow for the rights of colored people and against anti-Semitism."

The Congress said last Friday that other suits would be filed by some 150 injured concert-goers in the Peekskill riots and that before it's over the suits may total ten million dollars.

Police Join Hoodlums

Robeson did not sing at the first riot which broke up in a free-for-all on Aug. 27. He came back to Peekskill on Sept. 4, however, and sang to thousands of his supporters.

Following the concert, more than 500 State troopers and city and county police set upon the concert goers and beat them unmercifully. Many of the music lovers were also beaten and stoned by members of the veterans groups and citizens of Peekskill and surrounding areas.

Police afforded them no protection from such attacks, but at times actually joined the attacking groups. Some 54 persons had to be hospitalized after the clash, during which half a dozen automobiles and a bus were overturned.

Sheriff, D. A. Accused

Other counsel active in the suits for the plaintiffs are Alfred L. Tanz, Mrs. Bella S. Abzug, Michael E. Atkins and Mr. Patterson.

In addition to the rights violation and conspiracy charges, it was also charged:

That George M. Fanelli, district attorney of Westchester County and Fred W. Ruscoe, sheriff, had knowledge of the wrongs about to be committed but did not provide adequate protection; and

That Herbert C. Gerlach, county executive of Westchester County; John A. Gaffney, superintendent of State police; John W. Schneider, mayor of Peekskill; Daniel F. Glahseen, captain of Troop K of the State police, and Alvin Johnson, first sergeant of Troop K, neglected or refused to exercise reasonable diligence in protecting the concert-goers' exit from the grounds.

Speech Ban Ordinances Hit

On Thursday, the American Civil Liberties Union filed suit in Westchester County Supreme Court against the Town of Cortlandt, scene of the Sept. 4, rioting against Robeson, near Peekskill.

Arthur Garfield Hayes, attorney, filed the complaint that charged that two recently adopted town ordinances violated both the New York State and the Federal Constitutions by interfering with freedom of speech and of assembly.

One of the ordinances bans a public demonstration, assemblage or gathering on the town, street, highway or sidewalk without a permit; and the other makes it a criminal act to hold a meeting whose intent is "to break down law enforcement."

Davis Sympathizer Seized in Harlem Riot

New York police arrest John Sutton during a riot at a rally for City Councilman Benjamin Davis Jr. Harlem followers of Mr. Davis, who was released on bail after being convicted and sentenced for advocating forceful overthrow of the Government were staging a noisy parade when police cracked down, making six arrests.

ROBESON GROUP FILES SUIT IN PEEKSKILL RIOT

New York, Dec. 15 (AP)—Paul Robeson, Negro singer, and 27 others today filed in Federal court a 2 million dollar damage suit as the result of a clash which followed the singer's appearance at a rally near Peekskill, N. Y., several months ago.

The action was directed against two Westchester county veterans organizations and 14 other persons.

The plaintiffs asked for judgments ranging from $10,000 to $200,000 for alleged personal injuries, assault and deprivation of civil rights.

The suit also asked that the defendants and their officers, agents and employes be forever enjoined from "further conspiring and interfering with plaintiffs and others who hereafter may peaceably assemble in Westchester county for the purpose of holding discussions and assemblies."

ROBESON, 27 OTHERS SUE FOR $2,020,000

Westchester, State Officials and Two Veterans' Groups Accused in Civil Rights Case

Suits for damages totaling $2,020,000 for personal injury, property damage and deprivation of civil rights, were filed yesterday in the Federal Court by Paul Robeson, baritone, Howard Fast, author, the Civil Rights Congress and and twenty-five others.

The action, a result of the disturbances that took place at two Robeson concerts near Peekskill on Aug. 27 and Sept. 4, was directed against two Westchester County veterans organizations and fourteen others, among them state, Westchester County and Peekskill law enforcement officials. Judgments ranging from $10,000 to $200,000 were demanded.

The attorneys in the case headed by O. John Rogge, former Assistant Attorney General requested the courts "to forever enjoin the defendants from further conspiring and interfering with plaintiffs and others who hereafter may peaceably assemble in Westchester County for the purpose of holding discussions and assemblies."

The Civil Rights Congress seeks $100,000 damages on the charge of deprivation of civil rights. Claims against the state and Westchester County by 150 concert-goers have been announced, and it was indicated yesterday that additional suits aggregating $10,000,000 will be filed soon.

The list of defendants in yesterday's suits include John A. Gaffney, superintendent of state police; George M. Fanelli, Westchester County District Attorney, and Leonard Rubenfeld, his assistant; Herbert C. Gerlach, county executive of Westchester; John W. Schneider, Mayor of Peekskill; aDniel F. Glasheen, captain of Troop K, state police; Alvin Johnson, first sergeant, Troop K, the Veterans Joint Council, the Associated Veterans Council and others.

The veterans organizations were accused of having planned to prevent the concerts from being held. The officials were charged with having neglected or refused to give protection to the concert-goers when they left the grounds.

Denial of Security Charged

The complaints alleged that Mr. Robeson, as a Negro, was denied the full and equal benefit of laws and proceedings for the security of persons enjoyed by white persons. The same charge was made for all the Negro plaintiffs.

In the first disturbance, on Aug. 27, in connection with the concert scheduled by Mr. Robeson, at which he did not appear, 500 or more war veterans clashed with the concert-goers. At least eight were injured in the three-hour disturbance. At the second concert, on Sept. 4, there was a similar outbreak. Stones were thrown, half a dozen automobiles and an empty bus were overturned. The second clash sent fifty-four persons to the hospitals. The concerts were at the Lakeland Picnic grounds, near Cortland. Stones and other missiles were thrown as buses and automobiles drove by after a half hour concert by Mr. Robeson.

At a conference in the offices of the Civil Rights Congress, 205 East Forty-second Street, Mr. Robeson said yesterday he was deeply concerned with the outcome of the suit. A verdict for the plaintiffs, he said, would indicate that there is justice that fascism suffered a setback. Mr. Fast expressed similar sentiments.

William L. Patterson, national executive secretary of the Congress, said that the suit was intended not only to obtain relief for injuries suffered and rights deprived, but to unmask an official government policy that existed everywhere in this country under which officers of government joined with hoodlums and Ku Klux Klan elements to deprive the people of their constitutional rights.

Mr. Rogge issued a statement in which he said he hoped the public would support this fight and make certain that the forces exposed as leaders of the movement to destroy constitutional liberties in up-state New York were brought to justice.

Cortlandt Laws Face Test

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES

CROTON-ON-HUDSON, N. Y., Dec. 15—A summons and complaint in a Supreme Court suit to invalidate Cortlandt controls over public meetings were served on town officials today by the American Civil Liberties Union.

The complaint, drafted by Arthur Garfield Hays, charged that two recently adopted town ordinances infringe on freedom of speech and assembly. Both ordinances were adopted after disturbances in Cortlandt between left-wing followers of Paul Robeson and anti-Communist groups of Northern Westchester.

Robert E. Demsey, town attorney, said he and Mr. Hays would submit an agreed state of facts in Supreme Court at White Plains and seek a decision on the constitutional questions.

Civil Rights in Peekskill

Distinction Made Between Stand on Recent Riot and Mass Picketing

To the Editor of The New York Times:

The letter of Lewis Mayers in criticism of the American Civil Liberties Union, published in your Dec. 19 issue, calls for reply.

Prof. Mayers seems to find inconsistency in the Union's attitude toward the Peekskill affair as contrasted with its attitude toward the general phenomenon of "mass picketing." The former, he insists, was itself a case of mass picketing under the guise of a parade and demonstration. Yet the Union, he points out, has declared that the authorities [in Peekskill] were badly advised to permit a parade of veterans at the time and place of the concert in view of its provocative character, while at the same time adhering to its principle and policy supporting "the right to picket."

The crux of Prof. Mayers' argument obviously turns on his identification of the Peekskill riot with mass picketing. This identification I challenge. The demonstration in Peekskill was from the beginning a dangerous threat of force and violence. It was a deliberate and declared attempt to break up and scatter a meeting, i. e., a concert, in violation of law, order and civil rights.

Mass picketing, per contra, is an attempt to publicize a strike in a plant or other place of business, and to maintain this strike by an open appeal to public sentiment and peaceful persuasion of the workers. If, in the course of a strike, the picketing degenerates into violence or other defiance of public safety, then the Union would interfere exactly as at Peekskill, for it has long since made clear its conviction that mass picketing "shall not be accompanied by fraud, violence or actual obstruction of streets and highways."

Prof. Mayers seems to think that the American Civil Liberties Union is pro-labor and anti-veteran, and therefore has two yardsticks by which to measure and determine action. Nothing could be farther from the truth.

It is obvious, as in the case of the strike in Buffalo last summer, cited by Prof. Mayers in support of his argument, that a limited private organization like the Civil Liberties Union cannot act as a policeman all over the country. But we have demonstrated time and again that violent picketing, or mass picketing, which obstructs entrance to plants, blocks public highways and threatens security of life and property is a violation of civil liberties which the Union condemns just as it did the acts of violence in Westchester County.

I am grateful to Prof. Mayers for raising this question, and thus giving us opportunity to clarify an issue which may all too easily be led into confusion. John Haynes Holmes,

Chairman, Board of Directors.

New York, Dec. 22, 1949.

Dewey Should Crack Heads

Governor Dewey has spoken out strongly against the Peekskill riots, but he hasn't acted. We think he will.

Some State police and angry local county deputies beat more heads of Robeson supporters than did the veterans.

A startling picture was drawn in last week's AFRO by the National Negro Press Association's James L. Hicks, whose press card alone saved him from a police beating.

Most of the time when rioting prevails, the police are responsible either because they take the lead or because they turn their backs.

The cops did a beautiful job on Robeson followers.

A real investigation by Governor Dewey should bring about dismissals of guilty police and do-nothing district attorneys.

The cops, chief law-breakers, in this case, must be punished Governor if you want the rest of the country to be proud of New York and of your administration.

As the nation's greatest racket buster you have already proved you know what to do with gangsters.

Hecklers, Egg Throwers Meet Robeson Supporters

ALBANY, N. Y. — (NNPA)—A protest meeting by 350 Paul Robeson supporters went off without much incident last Wednesday outside the State Capitol building.

There were hecklers and egg throwers, but nobody was hurt.

Most of the delegation came up from New York City, arriving at 12:15 p. m. They came to protest Governor Thomas E. Dewey's alleged "whitewash" of the two riots near Peekskill on August 27 and Sept. 4. The second one occurred after Mr. Robeson sang.

CARRY PLACARDS

They carried such placards as "Defend the Bill of Rights—jail the Peekskill lynchers," "Governor Dewey, the leaders of the riots are known — arrest them" and "Mr. Dewey—oust Mr. Fanelli" (George M. Fannelli, Westchester County District Attorney).

The Governor was in New York City, so after almost two hours of speeches and songs, including "Solidarity Forever," a committee of five saw Lawrence E. Walsh, assistant counsel to Mr. Dewey, for fifteen minutes.

HEADED GROUP

The group was headed by O. John Rogge, former Assistant United States Attorney, and Paul Ross, American Labor Party candidate in New York for Comptroller.

Mr. Rogge and Mr. Ross praised the Albany police department, which had 200 men standing by. A half dozen eggs were thrown from high in the Capitol Building. The aim was bad.

The American Civil Liberties Union announced last Wednesday it had asked the Justice Department to investigate the August 27 riot and that the department replied it "has not yet found a basis to undertake" an investigation.

Cops Shy As Vets, Kids Mob Crowd

(Special to The Courier)

PEEKSKILL, N. Y.—Bitter rioting in a wooded grove not too far from the world's greatest metropolis—New York City—over the scheduled appearance of singer Paul Robeson left the nation aghast this week.

The Saturday night mob violence was featured by a burning cross atop a hill, overturned automobiles and frenzied clashes among more than 5,000 persons.

Developments moved swiftly after several persons, some seriously injured, went to hospitals after the fray Saturday night:

1. **Mr. Robeson requested New York's Governor Thomas E. Dewey to launch a full-scale probe of the affair.**
2. **Charges were made by Representative Vito Marcantonio (ALP, N. Y.) that Westchester County officials were responsible for the outbreak, naming County Clerk Robert J. Field and Asst. District Attorney Leonard Rubenfeld as key figures in inciting the incident.**
3. **National officials of veterans organizations disclaimed that their groups were at fault.**
4. **Observers expressed the belief that many of the crowd of "war veterans" who staged the initial demonstration which ended in terrific fighting, were spurious "veterans" who were definitely "anti-Robeson" and guised themselves as "veterans" to help precipitate the affair.**

The outbreak took place a mile and a half outside this town, where Mr. Robeson was to perform at a concert sponsored by Peoples Artists, Inc., for the benefit of the Harlem chapter of the Civil Rights Congress, an organization listed as subversive by former U. S. Attorney General Tom C. Clark.

PEEKSKILL, N. Y.—A New York Times dispatch last Friday said that Assistant District Attorney Leonard Rubenfeld, described as chairman of the Peekskill Joint Veterans Council, announced Thursday night that his group was organizing a protest parade against the Robeson concert on Saturday night. Rubenfeld said the parade would be "orderly and in violation of no law," the dispatch said.

PREVIOUS WARNING

Residents of this area had previously wired Westchester County Executive Herbert C. Gerlach and District Attorney George M. Fanelli at White Plains, that they feared some outbreak might take place as a result of what they termed "inflammatory statements" concerning the proposed Robeson concert.

The Civil Rights Congress later accused local and state police of deliberately staying away from the scene of the fracas until the rioting had been under way several hours and thirteen persons had been injured. The CRC charged that the law enforcement officers "were well aware of the fact that mob action was being planned."

ONE KNIFED SEVERELY

Of the thirteen injured persons nine were hospitalized, with three being knifed, one of them severely. The veterans overturned automobiles, tossing one into a nearby stream. They demolished the concert stage, setting fire to it and breaking up the seats and firing many of the two thousand camp chairs placed for the concert-goers.

As thousands of veterans clashed head-on with thousands present for the concert and the fighting spread to all parts of the grove, a large cross blazed from a hilltop in the area. Roadblocks were thrown up just as in wartime, made of stones, wood, wire and a large truck which was flung across the roadway.

The Robeson sympathizers repulsed the initial attacks, driving the veterans back across a bridge over a creek near the grounds. Police finally arrived and helped quell the rioting.

ROBESON SPIRITED OFF

The violence began when the veterans started marching before the concert area with bands blaring forth in a pre-announced demonstation in protest against Mr. Robeson's appearance at the affair. The singer did not actually appear on the scene, having been spirited away by friends who feared that further violence would result if he showed up on the concert grounds.

Representative Marcantonio, chairman of the New York State American Labor party, demanded a probe of the affair also. In Albany, James C. Hagerty, secretary to Governor Dewey, said no official request for an investigation had been received there and that his office had no comment to make on the matter.

Troopers Club Ex-Lawman and His Supporters

9-10-49

Army of Officers Fail to Keep Peace

47 INJURED

Returned

Vet Thugs Allowed to Stone Concert-Goers

BULLETIN

Paul Robeson, Monday, in a press conference held in the office of the Council of African Affairs, stated that he was prepared for the type of violence encountered Sunday night and would go back to Peekskill to sing anytime there was a group there that wanted to hear him.

By JAMES L. HICKS

PEEKSKILL, N.Y. (NNPA)—Paul Robeson kept his promise and came back here to sing last Sunday, but he sang in the midst of a complete breakdown of law and order.

The chief accompaniment to his singing was the dull thud of the blows which New York State Troopers and the State park police rained upon the heads and bodies of his supporters.

Robeson sang to an audience of 20,000 in a 27-acre meadow surrounded by 700 State Troopers, 12 busloads of State park police, the entire police force of Peekskill, every available man the sheriff's office could muster and 300 special deputies.

Robeson sang; and his booming voice, amplified by loudspeakers as much as possible, drowned out the drums, bugles and fifes and the sound of jeering and marching of some 2,000 veterans who paraded in protest at the entrance of the concert grove at Hollow Brook Golf Course.

Mob Riots Unchecked

Despite the police protection, so many of his followers were brutally beaten that the Peekskill Hospital annonnced that it was filled to capacity two hours after the concert.

Eight cars were known to be overturned, windows were smashed in automobiles and the lack of law and order became so great that bus drivers who had driven the Robesonites to the concert walked from their buses.

They refused to drive them from the grounds because they feared for their lives, they said. At least 47 people were severely injured.

The Robeson supporters were literally beaten into the dust of the one time grassy golf course by the men on whom they had called for protection — the New York State troopers and the State park police.

No Mistake About Beaters

There can be no mistake about who administered the beatings—pictures of the incidents taken by a battery of photographers will show the statement to be true.

The writer was an eyewitness to the entire affair from 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Sunday, when, with two other colored newsmen he sneaked away from the area in fair of bodily harm.

These are the things I saw:

I saw Jean Bullard, first colored aviator in World War 1 and holder of the French Croix de Guerre, knocked down at my feet and brutally kicked and beaten by State Troopers as he lay on the ground because he spat back at an anti-Robeson veteran who had spit in his face.

I saw a colored man who was in his car on his way home, dragged from his car, hit over the head while he was being dragged out, beaten on the ground by the troopers as he attempted to crawl under his car for protection.

He was then dragged from underneath the car and beaten with clubs by four troopers as he crawled helplessly down the narrow road leading to the concert area.

I saw a group of anti-Robeson veterans draw knives and chase an Amsterdam News representative along the highway, while State Troopers stood around and laughed.

I saw State Troopers pull white and colored men from their cars after the concert, beat them over their head and bodies with clubs and then after forcing them back into their cars, break out the windows and smash the tail lights of the cars as they were driven off at their orders.

I saw the District Attorney of Westchester County, flanked on all sides by the largest police force in the history of New York State, make a token appeal to about 3,000 anti-Robeson forces to go home.

He promised that "if you go home now, I promise you I will never let the Communists hold another meeting up here." His token appeal was roundly jeered by the mob and 15 minutes later the violence was at its peak.

Soldier Brutally Beaten

I saw Frank Garner Jr., a colored soldier of Company B of the 9th Infantry, stationed at Fort Dix, brutally beaten by an anti-Robeson group as he entered the concert area "escorted" by more than 75 State troopers.

I saw State Troopers beat and kick a group of unarmed Robeson supporters in full view of their wives and children and I stood by while the women looked on and screamed in wails that made me sick in the pit of my stomach.

I saw State troopers and Park police stand by and laugh while anti-Robesonites reached over their shoulders and pulled the hair of peaceful people trying to get into the concert area.

I cowered under the brandished club of a special deputy sheriff who came up behind me, seized me in the back of my neck and turned me loose only when he saw my press pass pinned to the lapel of my coat.

As he let go he remarked, "I started to bash your head in because I though you are one of those damn Commies."

1949 Cadillac Ripped

I saw the smashed ruins of photographer Billy Rowe's 1949 Cadillac, its left side ripped open by a bus driven by a frightened colored man from Brooklyn, Rowe Covington.

Covington sought to drive the busload of 40 people away from the scene because the white driver who had driven it there flatly told police that he had two children and a wife and that he was not going to risk his life by atempting to drive it away.

I saw Robeson supporters plead with District Attorney George M. Fanelli for a police escort for Robeson and I heard Fanelli tell them that there were enough police around to protect the singer without giving him a special escort.

I saw State Troopers seize anti-Robesonites for hurling stones into car windows and I saw them take them over to the trooper area and turn them loose and I saw the same anti-Robesonites re-enter the crowd and begin throwing stones again.

Vile Epithets Horled

I saw State Troopers stand by and grin while a mob of veterans stopped a colored man and his family in a town and country Chrysler on the road leading to the concert area and heap upon them the most vile language a person can recite.

White Robeson followers were branded " white n———rs" and colored Robeson followers were called everything under the sun.

I saw a lone colored man march in the small protest parade against Robeson with about 2,000 war veterans from Peekskill and the surrounding towns.

New York

At 8 a.m., Sunday, I sat in a white restaurant in Peekskill and laughed and joked with veterans who told three of us colored newsmen that "you boys came all the way up here from New York for a story.

Robeson Group Disciplined

I heard the Columbia Broadcasting System's Don Jefferson tell me personally that "I could not be being fair if I failed to say that the Robeson group is the most disciplined group I have ever seen despite the abuse and bad breaks they are getting."

I saw Robeson supporters form a human ring around him 60 yards in diameter and pledge themselves to die before allowing anyone, including newsmen to break the ring. It was not broken.

The concert area was located just outside of Peekskill on an abandoned golf course just one mile from the scene of the Robeson riot of several weeks ago.

At 8:30 a.m., Sunday, about 2,000 Robeson men, many of whom had slept on the area all night, had gathered in the broad meadow at the foot of the dirt road.

The Robeson group was armed with baseball bats and organized along military lines with squads and platoons under a field commander. Their bats were immediately taken away from them by the Troopers, when they arrived

900 Police on Scene

At 10 a.m., the State Troopers arrived, 200 strong, and took up positions on both sides of the road with about 50 of them entering the concert area and taking up positions along the brook.

At 10:30 a.m., 12 busloads of State Park Police arrived and joined the troopers in these positions. They were followed later by special police, the sheriff's office and Peekskill police.

At 11 a.m., the first busload of Robeson followers arrived.

Grateful to Supporters

Mr. Robeson was applauded 10 minutes as he stood to sing. He told the audience humbly: "I have to applaud you today. I have to thank you for being here."

Among the many songs he sang were "Go Down Moses," "Song of the Warsaw Ghetto,' "Old Man River," "No John, No,' and the last aria from "Boris Godunov."

Howard Fast, Progressive Party leader and eminent author, was chairman at the meeting. Others who entertained were Sylvia Kahn, who sang "The Star Spangled Banner;" Allen Brown, and Pete Seeger.

At the conclusion of the concert, Robeson, who only sang, did not make a speech, left by car across a back road so that he could not be spotted by the crowd at the regular entrance.

It was only then, when the concert was concluded, that the 20,000 persons on the grounds realized how the tension had heightened along the road.

As the first cars began to leave, the crowd around the entrance surged forward and a few stones were hurled, one of which knocked a State trooper unconscious.

When Dr. Frederick Gottlieb of the Westchester Law and Order Committee stopped Harold Davis, a parade leader who rode his horse through the entrance to the golf course, Davis struck the physician with his whip, which had not been taken from him by officers although the meeting's pickets were all disarmed.

The battle then raged for several hours despite the fact that there was at least one policeman present for very four or five malice-motivated demonstrators. They were jeered and vilified by a group of Peekskill residents who had gathered around the troopers at the concert road entrance.

At first the troopers began to make the people at the entrance move on, leaving only the press free to congregate at the entrance; and if this policy had been continued it is believed that the parade and concert would have gone off in orderly fashion.

But soon the veterans began to parade before the entrance and at the same time the Robeson buses began to arrive down a road just opposite of the dirt road leading into the area and perpendicular to the road on which the veterans were parading.

Entry System Poor

This meant that when a bus arrived the parade had to be stopped to let it through and when a unit of the parade arrived at the entrance the buses had to be stopped to let them through.

This did not work at all; and soon the paraders stopped parading and began waiting for buses so they could heckle their occupants as the bus came almost to a standstill in order to enter the narrow road.

The buses continued to pour in and the marchers continued to march and heckle and the tension continued to mount.

Robeson came in at 11:50 a.m., with a convoy of 15 cars, but very few at the entrance knew of his coming although newsmen and the anti-Robeson groups were particularly awaiting his arrival.

No Aid En Route

The troopers had cleared the entrance by pushing the veterans back into the adjacent fields and the buses and cars began to emerge from the concert area and travel up the road toward the Taconia Parkway.

They were waylaid a few yard up however, and so badly beaten and stoned that police then changed the departure route and started sending them toward the laid and their cars overturned, Peekskill. This was no help for in that direction they were blocking traffic.

They were then sent the third way and for awhile the traffic moved rapidly but soon all of the roads were taken over by the veterans: and the Robeson follow-

Troopers Turn on Victims

About that time a man was seen running across the area toward the troopers with his head bashed with his bat. He was ordered the drivers caught before reaching the Robeson line and brought back.

troopers asked the Robe of the Robeson cars and saw a ball wers if they could find of the Bobeson cars and saw a ball s drivers among them bat. That set off the most brutal ney did. violence one can en they began to move imagine.

s, the regular drivers The troopers banded together veterans what was hap-

Attack on Buses Made

son followers some bus drivers

After the group had dwindled down to about 1000 Robeson supporters, and just when reporters had begun to believe that the convoy would be ended with a mini-

about 300 strong and marched into the area pulling the men from their cars and beating them unmercifully despite the fact that they were calmly sitting there waiting their chance to pull out of the area.

They went through about 75 cars, dragging their occupants out and giving them a beating with clubs before ordering them back in and sending them on.

The confusion became so great that no one was protected and it was at this point tha tthe writer left, leaving about 400 men still in the battle area.

Progressives on Offensive

The fact that the concert, itself, was not broken up by bigots was seen in the preparations for violence made by the progressives.

With protests pouring in from all over the nation and police officials failing to act on the Aug. 27 rioting at Peekskill, Robeson on the preceeding Tuesday night called for a change of pace among his supporters and bluntly stated that "from now on we'll take the offensive."

Before a rally of 3,000 Robeson rooters at Golden Gate Ballroom in Harlem, Robeson called new path" in which his followers on his supporters to start on "a would not depend on police protection but see to it that "we have protection for ourselves."

Angry at Treatment

Amidst the wild cheering of an interracial gathering of about 2,000 colored people and 1000 whites, the following statements were hurled from the speaker's platform:

Robeson said he would be loyal to the America of the "true tradition" but that he would never be loyal to the America of "the Forrestals, Harrimans and Wall St. scum whom I have stepped on and beaten into the ground on the football field."

Communist City Councilman Benjamin Davis castigated Federal Judge Harold Medina, who is currently trying him, by including him in a group of "Wall St. flunkies, whether they wear white sheets or black robes." Davis called Mayor O'Dwyer a "flip-flop Willie."

Rep. Vito Marcantonio, who asked to be quoted, called Jack Lait, editor of the Daily Mirror, a journalistic pimp and a stumbledown lush bum."

Marcantonio added that Lait was "so low that he could break the altitude record in a baloon and still be lower than a snake's belly."

NAACP Represented

John Levy, executive secretary of the Harlem NAACP, stated that before he would sacrifice his civil liberties, "I pledge to you and to my God that I will sacrifice my life."

The audience vowed that the Ku Klux Klan would not gain a foothold in New York. They swore that they would take steps to protect themselves rather than wait for police protection. They promised to go back to Peekskill to hear Robeson sing and exercise their right of peaceful assembly.

New York's "finest," past masters in the art of handling crowds, saw to it that both meetings went off without a single untoward incident. Co-chairman were by Kay Kerby, a reporter on the New York Amsterdam News, and Mrs. Lois Morehead, reported to be the wife of the former assistant Attorney General of the Virgin Islands.

Robeson slapped at on offer by the Veterans of Foreign Wars to give him a one way ticket to Russia.

"As nice as that would be," he said, "there is another job to be done right here and by the blood of my ancestors I'm going to stay right here and fight until it is done."

Suits to Be Filed

The Civil Rights Congress annonuced last Friday that it is proceeding with civil and criminal actions against leaders of the Aug. 27 outrage, on behalf of a number of victims of the assault in Peekskill.

In addition to suits for property damage, bodily injury, and invasion of civil rights, court action is contemplated against Peekskill and State officials who were remiss in providing protection for those who attended the meeting.

"The terrorists who so brutally attacked those who came to hear Robeson sing," declared William L. Patterson, executive secretary of CRC, "must be arrested and punished. However, already there are indications that Gov. Dewey intends to whitewash the shameful affair.

"He has asked for 'reports' from District Attorney George M. Fanelli and Sheriff Fred W. Ruscoe—two of the officials responsible for the failure to provide adequate police protection. This farce of the guilty investigating themselves must be stopped.

"The Civil Rights Congress is demanding a real investigation and the immediate apprehension and punishment of those responsible for the fascist outbreak.

"Meanwhile, we have asked our lawyers to take depositions and affidavits from victims who suffered personal injury and property damage at the hands of the Peekskill stormtroopers. We have instructed our attorneys to proceed immediately with actions," he concluded.

District Attorney Turning Afro-American Probe Over to Oct. Jury

Dat. 10-1-49

Malicious Mischief Charged in Bills Returned After Dewey Orders Inquiry

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. — Six persons, including the son of the Peekskill police chief, were indicted Tuesday morning by the regular summer grand jury on various charges growing out of a demonstration against Paul Robeson and communism on Sept. 4.

The police chief's son, Joseph Lillis Jr., 25, was accused of malicious mischief for throwing stones at Robeson's followers near the former Hollow Brook Country Club in the town of Cortlandt.

Robert Lent, 29, of Shrub Oak, a war veteran, was indicted on a Sullivan Law charge for the alleged carrying of a long hunting knife strapped to his leg, also near Hollow Brook.

Indictments charging malicious mischief near Hollow Brook for overturning an automobile of a Robeson follower were voted against David F. Miller, 16, and William B. Williams, 20, both of Peekskill, and Samuel J. Biordi, 17, and Vincent F. Doherty, 18, both of Croton-on-Hudson.

Special Jury Ruled Out

District Attorney George M. Fanelli decided to ask the regular October grand jury to investigate the violence following Robeson's concert near Peekskill instead of a special grand jury.

His decision was announced after he completed a study of the grand jury law as it applies to Westchester County, scene of the outbreaks.

May Not Call Robeson

Mr. Fanelli last week refused to say whether Paul Robeson would be called before the grand jury which will inquire into two recent outbreaks of violence near Peekskill where one concert by the renowned baritone was canceled and another held.

Gov. Thomas E. Dewey on Sept. 14 ordered a "complete, unlimited and exhaustive" grand jury inquiry into the outbreaks after a four and a half hour conference with the district attorney and Sheriff W. Ruscoe of Westchester.

Communists Blamed

The Governor opined that the disorders were provoked deliberately by Communist sympathizers of Mr. Robeson, but called them "a shame and a disgrace."

He asserted that participants in the anti-Communist demonstrations incident to the concerts had fallen into a Communist "bear trap," and had unwittingly furnished grist for party propaganda all over the United States, Europe, South America and Africa.

Police arrangements for the second Robeson concert, in which the District Attorney participated, were widely criticized throughout the nation, but Governor Dewey praised the arrangements nevertheless.

When asked if he had considered supplanting Mr. Fanelli in the grand jury investigation, the Governor said he knew he was present during the second riot, but that the violence was some distance from the actual concert scene.

The District Attorney will have charge of presenting the evidence to the jury, and Governor Dewey said he had his assurance that he would proceed "promptly, vigorously and impartially."

Mr. Fanelli repeated the assurances after the Governor's announcement and emphasized that he would "call everyone who can throw any light on what happened," but refused to say whether this would include Mr. Robeson.

Governor Dewey said the grand jury investigation would cover:

1. All the disorders which broke out after the Sept. 4 meeting, and whether they were the result of organized planning by any individual or group.

Grand Jury Picked To Probe Riot At Robeson Sing

Dat. 10-4-49

White Plains, N. Y., Oct. 3 (AP)—A grand jury was selected and sworn in today to investigate the Paul Robeson concert riots.

State Supreme Court Justice James W. Bailey swore in 23 men and one woman of the 40 called.

He asked that they determine without racial prejudice if there had been a "conspiracy to commit or promote disturbances of strife."

He also charged the jury to decide if groups that guarded the Negro baritone "were an illegal private militia."

Governor Dewey ordered the special investigation after fighting and stone-throwing followed Robeson's September 4 concert near Peekskill and forced cancelation of an earlier concert.

New York (Paul Robeson Concert)

I Saw Peekskill

— Eye-Witness Account —

EDITOR'S NOTE: This unsolicited eye-witness account of the riot at Peekskill last Sunday shows that police officers assigned to the job of keeping order in the region are as much to blame for the infamous 45 minutes of violence that flared as the so-called "vet" demonstrators. Emmett Eley, a slightly-built, graying carpenter who lives at 200 W. 136th St., gives his version of what happened at Peekskill.

By EMMETT ELEY

The Robesonites were still peaceful and quiet, contrary to what some newspapers have said. The vets, on the other hand, were visibly hostile. The vets began to throw rocks again, and the policemen refused to seek where the rocks came from, but rather, looked upon the peaceful throngs where the missles were landing. It was easy to see that they were in favor of the vets and didn't care whether they protected law and order.

They stopped throwing rocks for a while and then began again, while the Robesonites remained peaceful, nursing wounds, etc. One rock struck the CBS station wagon, causing the operator to seek shelter behind his van. A police captain broke through the crowd and came out with a man who might have been throwing stones. At that time, the vets were within five feet of the police lines.

When, on orders from someone from a police helicopter hovering overhead the lines opened up to allow Negro late-comers onto the concert grounds, police began beating on them, seeming anxious not to attack persons who appeared caucasian. A police lieutenant or captain actually hit a man from behind with his night stick for simply trying to come into the concert area.

The husky young man who was hit turned upon the officer and sent him sprawling and later flattened two or three more policemen who advanced upon him with sticks poised. The captain who was hit wore badge No 310 or 110. The youth was finally overcome and knocked to the ground whereupon he was set upon by police officers, prodded with sticks and brutally beaten. All this time, the "vets" continued to attack peaceful inside-the-blockaded Robesonites.

Negro police officers, both State Troopers and township officers, seemed more conscientious about preserving what semblance of order there was left. I asked a white reporter for his pencil so that I could take the badge number of one heroic Negro cop and failed to notice a polo-shirted stander-by slip away into the crowd. He later returned with a police officer who ruthlessly told me that I'd better "get back" where I belonged—all the time waving his club menacingly.

I saw many men clubbed and cannot say that any of them were caucasian. The policemen seemed to be re-enforcements for the anti-Robesonites, who were notably outnumbered, but visibly the aggressors. Only about 5 per cent of the people involved in the affair were Negroes.

I had asked a colored photographer to take me back to town with him, but his car was already filled up. I, who have never been a communist, went down to ask the concert guards to arrange transportation back to the city for me. They directed me to the busses. When I started toward a bus, I saw a group of policemen chasing a white man down a nearby hill and overtake him. As the two stood talking, a group of State Troopers came up and drug the man away.

I started toward another car, but was unable to reach it. A cop reached into the car and pulled a Negro out of it and the mob swarmed down upon the victim. From another auto, policemen pulled a swathy, six-foot Negro from another car and the mob swarmed over him. A big trooper battered the man's head in with his club and they all jumped upon him, raining blows. The man, definitely a foreigner, but a dark-skinned one, was beaten—even on his feet—by at least six officers. I couldn't imagine these men to be these sworn to protect the rights and privileges of citizens.

BRONX MOB TERRORIZES MIXED MEET

Mob violence in the Greater New York area, expected to follow the Peekskill violences, cross-burnings and flaming-arrow shootings in Long Island and the rush of extra police power to Harlem, finally broke out last Friday night in the Bronx when a mob of 200 broke up a meeting being staged to protest the Peekskill fiasco.

The outdoor meeting held at 158th St. and Courtland Ave. by the Bronx County Young Progressive Association was dispersed; a Negro burned in effigy; and city buses stoned as the mob — in the best traditions of the Ku Klux Klan—hurled stones, sticks, bottles and vicious anti-Negro and anti-Semitic invectives into the small gathering.

Not A Chance

The Rev. McGowan of the Epworth Methodist Episcopal Church never had a chance to address the meeting as members of the mob, said by police to be "neighborhood hoodlums," but identified as a front contingent of Ku Klux Klanners and affiliates of the infamous Christian Front movement, drifted into the crowd 20 to 30 at a time until some 200 were present.

Ot a pre-determined signal, eyewitnesses say, a shower of stones, bottles and rottening fruits and vegetables descended upon the speakers and others attending the meeting, causing the session to hurriedly disperse. Young Progressives and innocent bystanders of Jewish and Negro descent were chased out of the area, many of them boarding passing city buses. The mob began to stone the buses with some of the mobsters attempting to board the buses and drag off the fleeing victims.

When the persons attending the meeting had been routed, the mob returned to the scene, burned a prepared "Negro" in effigy and continued to molest Negro and Jewish passers-by.

Although the Young Progressive Association secured a permit to hold the meeting and to use a sound-truck, no policemen were evident, either during the meeting or during the ensuing violence.

The organized manner in which the meeting was broken up gives credence to the belief that the Bronx chapter of the Ku Klux Klan has again begun to operate efficiently. The Klan, at the present time, following the 1946 state crackdown, has dwindled in Greater New York from 15 separate units to four. These units are operating in Brooklyn, the Bronx, Queens and Staten Island.

The Bronx Friday "demonstration" followed closely on the heels of those staged under Klan sponsorship in Birmingham, Ala. and another large Deep South city where effigies of Negroes were also burned.—LH

Organizations Join in Blast On Paul's RIOT

Among the organizations that this week joined several others in protesting the recent riot at Peekskill, N. Y. following the scheduling of a concert by baritone Paul Robeson are the American Civil Liberties Union; the International Workers Order, Inc.; the New York Branch NAACP; the Council of African Affairs; the American Committee of Musical Artists; the Long Island Division of the Civil Rights Congress and the United Office and Professional Workers of America, CIO.

PAUL ROBESON

'MY ANSWER'

By Paul Robeson

As Told to Dan Burley

WHERE WILL THE NEXT PEEKSKILL BE? What new battle ground have the reactionary police and those behind them selected? Where will they demonstrate further the "old Southern Custom" of beating in the heads of Negroes and all those identified with the struggle to free the Negro people? I mean completely free the Negro from the shackles of the greedy exploiters of his labor and his talents. To be completely free from the chains that bind him, the Negro must be part of the progressive forces which are fighting the overall battle of the little guy—the sharecropper, the drugstore clerk, the auto mechanic, the porter and the maid, the owner of the corner diner, the truck driver, the garment, mill and

hands of less than a hundred men is so strong that it can decide who shall eat and who shall not, who shall have decent homes and who shall be doomed to crowded tenements that are firetraps and rat-infested holes where children equipped now, although I have not always been so, to make the supreme fight for my people and all the other underprivileged masses wherever they may be. Here, I speak of those bereft of uncom-

promising, courageous leadership that cannot be bought, cannot be intimidated, and cannot be swerved from its purpose of bringing true freedom to those who follow it. God gave me the voice that people want to hear, whether in song or in speech. I shall take my voice wherever there are those who want to hear the melody of freedom or the words that might inspire hope and courage in the face of despair and fear.

I told the American Legion that I have been to Memphis, Tennessee, the stamping grounds of such Negro-haters as Ed Crump and others of the cracker breed, and I have been to the lynch belt of Florida. I told the Legion I would return to Peekskill. I did. I will go North, South, East or West, Europe, Africa, South America, Asia or Australia and fight for the freedom of the people. This thing burns in me and it is not my nature nor inclination to be scared off.

They revile me, scandalize me, and try to holler me down on all sides. That's all right. It's okay. Let them continue. My voice topped the blare of the Legion bands and the hoots of the hired hoodlums who attempted to break up my concert appearance for the Harlem Division of the Civil Rights Congress. It will be heard above the screams of the intolerant, the jeers of the ignorant pawns of the small groups of the lousy rich who would drown out the voice of a champion of the underdog. My weapons are peaceful for it is only by peace that peace can be attained. Their weapons are the nightsticks of the fascist police, the bloodhounds of the cracker sheriffs in the backwoods of the South, the trained voices of the choirs of hate. The song of freedom must prevail.

Aftermath of the Robeson Fight: Gossip, Threats Divide Peekskill

Clergymen and Business Men Meet to Stem Tide of Ill-Feeling and Restore Quiet to the Normally Conservative City

By MERRILL FOLSOM

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

PEEKSKILL, N. Y., Sept. 9—In a re-examination of the violence that marked recent demonstrations against Paul Robeson and his left-wing followers, persons in this politically conservative city of 18,600 were wondering today whether they could best oppose communism by continuing open battle or by learning to turn their backs on the controversy.

To the original lists of physical injuries and property damage the city is adding new tolls. Reputations of innocent business and professional men are being harmed by "witch-hunts" and gossip. Merchants fear economic loss from a "false national impression" that Peekskill is a place of racial discrimination and intimidation — an impression that Robeson followers have tried to increase with continuing charges.

The residents had 24 per cent more income per capita last year than the national average and they spent $25,616,000 locally, but some are threatening to move away—especially the leftist summer residents.

Amid the heat of the controversy the Rev. Raymond M. O'Brien, rector of St. Peter's Episcopal Church and chairman of the Peekskill Council of Christian Clergymen, and Paul C. Morris, executive secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, brought clergymen, business men and veterans together tonight to seek peace.

Seeks a Middle Ground

Father O'Brien, explaining that he had no sympathy for the Robeson beliefs nor for the local tactics that had been used to combat them, urged development of a third point of view that would recognize that Peekskill persons calm and wise enough to condemn mob violence against Robeson followers should not immediately be branded as Communists.

Much of last Sunday's violence at the former Hollow Brook Golf Course, Father O'Brien said, came from youths who lacked a Peekskill recreational center. He had at the rectory today a 16-year-old boy accused of tipping over a car. The boy said he had no knowledge of Mr. Robeson's beliefs and was at the rally "just for fun."

"A most frightening thing," Father O'Brien declared, "is that responsible men also took part in the violence and they still feel proud of it. They have no feeling of shame or contrition."

Harry Tuller, druggist, and Franklin Gamwell, store manager, told of boycott threats by Communist leaders unless they stopped advertising in a "Fascist newspaper.

Milton Skolsky, gift shop proprietor, related typical threats of boycott made by anti-Communists against Jewish merchants falsely suspected of sympathies for Mr. Robeson.

"Unfortunately," said Samuel Slutzky, commander of the Jewish War Veterans, "a good many people of our community feel that all Jews are Communists. Religious Jews cannot be Communists since a Communist is an atheist."

Dissensions Are Deplored

Cyril McDermott, on behalf of the Catholic War Veterans, said the greatest evil caused by the disorders was the stirring of community dissension. Commanders John Zimmer of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Milton Flynt of the American Legion condemned the boycott threats and false rumors as "godless, ruthless and vicious."

In today's Chamber of Commerce mail were letters from summer residents calling Peekskill a "Fascist pesthole" that faces "bankruptcy" because "bloodthirsty merchants" would lose trade.

Arthur Gelman, executive secretary of the National Hand Embroidery and Novelty Manufacturers Association in New York, said he and two friends were cancelling plans to buy homes in the area "as we do not wish to be victims of anti-semitism."

Steven D. Szego, owner of the 150-acre Hollow Brook Golf Course, said he had lent the place for the latest Robeson concert merely as a protest against the "fascism" that had prevented the concert from being held a week earlier in a near-by picnic grove. Now, Mr. Szego charged, he is called a Communist by neighbors although he is opposed to that ideaology and consistently votes the Republican ticket.

Mr. Szego said he filed insurance claims for the fire damage "hoodlums" caused Sunday and Monday nights to his home and the result was cancelation of policies by four insurance companies.

Promoters of a contemplated outdoor theatre on the former golf course told Mr. Szego they were losign interest in the project because of damage that might be caused by "hoodlums."

Mr. Szego was born in Budapest, lived in Berlin from 1921 to 1923, then in England until coming to this country in 1939. He became a citizen in 1947. He is a structural engineer.

"I saw how fascism started in Germany and it was just like what has happened here in the last few days," Mr. Szego said. "Anyone who fought for free speech was called a Communist by the Nazis. It's the same now with the Ku Klux Klan."

Vets, Patrons Of Robeson Riot; 13 Hurt

PEEKSKILL, N. Y.—(AP) Fierce rioting among thousands of persons broke out last night at a scheduled picnic grove concert by Paul Robeson and at least 11 persons were reported stabbed or clubbed.

The rioting broke out as marching veterans' organizations and concertgoers clashed head-on in a dirt country road near the grove.

After two and a half hours the fighting still had not been completely quelled.

The crowd of thousands contained a large number of Negroes, but mostly whites.

At least 11 persons were taken to the hospital, police reported, and the hospital said "they came in like flies—we can't keep count of them."

The hospital said the injured apparently were beaten with "rocks, clubs, anything they could get their hands on."

Robeson did not appear on the scene.

The Negro singer was reported tied up in the huge traffic jam that the riot caused on nearby roads.

His concert appearance had been scheduled by the Peoples Artists Committee for the benefit of the Harlem Branch of the civil rights congress.

The congress has been labeled subversive by the U. S. Justice Department.

At least seven automobiles were turned upside down, and one was tossed off an embankment into a stream.

A cross was seen to be burning atop a hill above the picnic grove.

Several local veteran organizations announced earlier yesterday that they were staging a "patriotic" parade around the picnic grove.

They said four brass bands would blare forth during Robeson's concert.

The parade started past the grove, located in the nearby town of Cortland.

The paraders shouted slogans while their hands blared out patriotic march tunes.

The parade turned into a dirt road leading to the concert bowl, where 2,000 camp chairs had been set up.

Concert goers formed a line across the road and then moved a huge truck across it as a roadblock.

Men and women on both sides were pushed back as the two bodies of persons met, and the concert forces started to sing a Negro spiritual, "We Shall Not Be Moved."

Two county sheriff's men held the surging marchers back for a time, then fell back as pieces of wooden railing from a fence along the road began to fly through the air.

One man, identified as William Secor, of Mohegan, N. Y., was reported stabbed in the melee that followed.

A Navy veteran, James Renza, 30, of Peekskill, was slugged on the back of the head and taken to the hospital bleeding heavily from a deep gash.

POLICE SUPPORTED IN ROBESON AFFRAY

Sheriff Joins Prosecutor in Praise—Jewish Group Asks

Moreland Inquiry

A report by Sheriff Fred W. Ruscoe of Westchester County on last Sunday's disturbances incidental to a concert near Peekskill by Paul Robeson, baritone and left wing political figure, was released yesterday without comment by Governor Dewey.

The American Jewish Congress, meanwhile, called upon Mr. Dewey to supersecede Westchester District Attorney George M. Fanelli and appoint a Moreland Act commission to investigate the disorders and the accompanying breakdown "either wilfully or negligently * * * of the State Police functions and law enforcement in Westchester County."

Sheriff Ruscoe's report corroborated and supplemented an earlier report by Mr. Fanelli. As Mr. Fanelli had said in his account of the concert and its violent aftermath, Mr. Ruscoe declared the police were to be commended for preventing more serious trouble and fatalities.

He concurred with Mr. Fanelli's findings that such outbreaks as occurred while concertgoers were leaving were the work of teen-age groups and not of veterans who took part in the anti-Communist demonstration in front of the concert site. The sheriff also agreed with the District Attorney that the injured numbered seventy. Newspaper accounts have reported the injured at more than 100, while Mr. Robeson's followers have put the figure at 200. Neither Mr. Ruscoe nor Mr. Fanelli touched upon the trouble near Peekskill a week earlier, when eight persons were hurt.

"Grim Reminder" Seen

The American Jewish Congress' request for a Moreland commission investigation was based on action taken by the group's national administration committee, of which Dr. Joachim Prinz is chairman.

The pattern of mob violence and hoodlumism at the two disorders, the Congress said in a telegram to the Governor, "is a grim and foreboding reminder of the technique through which democracy and liberty were destroyed in other parts of the world."

"Unless our public officials act vigorously and effectively, they will be encouraging the forces of lawlessness to use organized and planned violence with strong overtonesof anti-Negro and anti-Semitic prejudice to subvert our civil liberties," the message said.

In asking Mr. Dewey to supersede Westchester officials, the organization said that the necessity complete investigation "cannot be conducted by those local officials whose behavior has at best been questionable."

Arthur J. Aronson, state commander of the Jewish War Veterans, also urged Governor Dewey to investigate at once the apparent failure of the police to cope with the situation and to determine those responsible for "instigating, organizing or abetting the explosion of violence, racial and religious hatred."

AVC Scores Other Groups

Federal investigations were asked by the United Public Workers, CIO, and postoffice officials of the United Electrical Workers, CIO, and by the United Office and Professional Workers, CIO, to repudiate the part special police at the concert. The Socialist Workers party denounced Westchester and state officials for "complicity" in the disorders.

At White Plains, County Executive Herbert C. Gerlach approved $8,216 in bills for payment for the concert. The Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Catholic War Veterans were asked by the union and post-sheriffs at $15 each, $1,000 for Poughkeepsie. The Fur-lunches, $391 for rental of a heli-copter, $195 for internes and nurses and $780 for bus hire.

The American Veterans Committee called upon officials of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Catholic War Veterans to protest publicly their affrays and the participation therein of members or units of their organizations. The AVC said ranging a street rally for Monday

Mob Sets Fire To Robeson Concert Stage

300 to 400 Anti-Reds Near Peekskill Seek To Block Appearance

Peekskill, N. Y., Aug. 27 (U.P.).—A mob of young men tonight set fire to the stage at a picnic area near here in trying to halt a scheduled concert by Negro baritone Paul Robeson.

The group was estimated at between 300 and 400, and was understood to consist largely of anti-Communist war veterans.

Skirmishes broke out as the youths sought to block an entrance to the picnic grounds, three miles north of here.

Peekskill poice sent out a hurried call for assistance.

Twenty New York state police tried to disperse the crowd.

Up until a late hour, Robeson had not arrived, but an audience of about 150 persons, including both Negroes and whites, waited for him to appear. An audience of 2500 had been expected.

An unidentified young man was reported to have been stabbed in one skirmish.

The concert had been scheduled for the benefit of the Harlem Chapter of the left-wing Civil Rights Congress.

About 4500 curious persons jammed the highway for three miles in each direction.

The Peekskill Riot

The three hours of rioting at Peekskill, N. Y., Saturday night, between a force of veterans and a group of Communists and fellow travelers from New York, was bad business and a very dangerous symptom. It suggests a somewhat belated revival of the vigilantism which followed the First World War. By what appears to have been either a happy accident or the happy consequence of the New York State law which prohibits the sale of firearms, neither side possesssed any weapons more deadly than clubs, stones, bottles and a few knives. Thus out of the hundreds engaged in the fighting, only two seem to have been very seriously hurt.

The occasion of the riot was the announcement that Mr. Paul Robeson, the celebrated Negro baritone, was to sing at a concert at the Peekskill picnic grounds for the purpose of raising money for the Civil Rights Congress, the front organization that wages the legal battles of the Communist Party. An editorial in the Peekskill newspaper urged local residents to boycott the concert; but the Council of Veterans' Organizations decided that more drastic action was necessary. Its plan was to spoil the concert by having the members march up and down before the picnic grounds and drown out the voice of Mr. Robeson with the music of their bands. Evidently the council overestimated its powers of discipline, for as the marchers drew near the concert platform they broke ranks and, after some fighting, captured it by storm. Then they proceeded to set fire to the place, and to overturn or otherwise damage the automobiles in which the visitors had arrived.

It is hard to say which side is more to blame for this disgraceful and ominous episode. The choice of such a community as Peekskill for such an affair seems to have been asking for trouble, which, however, may well have been the reason it was chosen. Again, there is the fact Mr. Robeson in the last few months has made himself wholly obnoxious to all good Americans, including those of his own race, by his repeated disparagements of his native country and his fulsome glorification of Soviet Russia. In this, of course, Mr. Robeson may be merely parroting a line prepared for him by the Comin form; at any rate, since he has refused to deny that he is a Communist, he is open to the suspicion. As it happened, Mr. Robeson never turned up for the concert at all. According to a statement by the executive secretary of the congress, the singer was warned of trouble *en route*, and thus, as it was said, saved from "possible lynching."

All the same, it appears that the Communists are more pleased than indignant over what happened. It has given them an opportunity to complain shrilly about "storm troopers" and to renew their propaganda line that the United States is rapidly heading into a new brand of Hitlerism. Thus the veterans who opened the riot, whatever their motives, were actually playing the Communist game.

As for the leaders of the veterans' organization, we might suggest that the creation of situations likely to be productive of violence is hardly the highest form of patriotism, especially at a time when suspicions and hostilities among minority groups have grown tense. The Communist program, of course, is to fan these animosities wherever possible. But the aim of organizations which profess to put the good of the country first should, it seems to us, be just the opposite.